E/2010/29
E/CN.17/2010/15

United Nations

Commission on Sustainable Development

Report on the eighteenth session (15 May 2009 and 3-14 May 2010)

Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 2010
Supplement No. 9

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United Nations • New York, 2010

Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

ISSN 1020-3559

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decision recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Council

1. The Commission on Sustainable Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its eighteenth session and provisional agenda for the nineteenth session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its eighteenth session and approves the provisional agenda for the nineteenth session of the Commission as set out below.

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2010-2011 — policy session:
   (a) Transport;
   (b) Chemicals;
   (c) Waste management;
   (d) Mining;
   (e) A 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns.
4. Provisional agenda for the twentieth session of the Commission.
5. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its nineteenth session.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

2. The attention of the Council is drawn to the following decisions adopted by the Commission at its eighteenth session:

Decision 18/1
Participation of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

At its 2nd meeting, on 3 May 2010, the Commission on Sustainable Development decided to approve the requests of the following intergovernmental organizations to participate as observers in the work of the eighteenth session of the Commission: International Lead and Zinc Study Group; International Copper Study Group; and International Nickel Study Group.

Decision 18/2
Proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013: subprogramme 4, Sustainable development, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs

At its 21st meeting, on 14 May 2010, the Commission on Sustainable Development decided to take note of the note by the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013, subprogramme 4, Sustainable development, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs.[1]

[1] E/CN.17/2010/12.

Chapter II

Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2010-2011: (a) transport; (b) chemicals; (c) waste management; (d) mining; (e) a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns

A. Overall review

1. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 2nd to 21st meetings, from 3 to 14 May 2010. The documents before the Commission under this agenda item are posted on the website of the Division for Sustainable Development: http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res_docucsd_18.shtml.

2. At its 2nd meeting, on 3 May, the Commission heard presentations on the outcomes of intersessional activities and events by the following: Akira Nitta (Japan), on the outcomes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Regional 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Forum in Asia and the International Consultative Meeting on Expanding Waste Management Services in Developing Countries, held in Tokyo, on 11 and 12 November 2009 and on 18 and 19 March 2010, respectively; the representative of the Republic of Korea, on the outcome of the international expert group meeting entitled "United Nations Forum on Climate Change Mitigation, Fuel Efficiency and Sustainable Development of Urban Transport", held in Seoul, on 16 and 17 March 2010; and Donald Cooper (Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants), on the outcome of the Workshop on Case Studies in the Sound Management of Chemicals, held in Geneva, on 3 and 4 December 2009.

3. At the same meeting, general statements were made by Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), China, Japan, the United Arab Emirates, Israel, the Russian Federation, Iran (Islamic Republic of), India, Canada and Switzerland, as well as by the observers for Yemen (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Nepal (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the least developed countries), Chile (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action, known as the Rio Group), Lebanon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Arab States), Paraguay (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the landlocked developing countries), Solomon Islands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Alliance of Small Island States), Micronesia (Federated States of) (on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States that are States Members of the United Nations), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Caribbean Community) and Indonesia.

4. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

5. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: women; children and youth; indigenous people;

non-governmental organizations; local authorities; workers and trade unions; business and industry; scientific and technological community; and farmers.

6. At its 3rd (parallel) meeting, on 3 May, the Commission held a regional discussion on Africa, at which the outcome of the regional implementation meeting was presented by the representative of South Africa.

7. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the following panellists: Isatou Gaye (Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)) and Fatoumata Jallow Ndoye (African Union Commission).

8. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of the United States and Canada, as well as by the observers for Senegal, Ghana, Algeria, Morocco and the United Republic of Tanzania.

9. Statements were made by the representatives of ECA, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

10. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: children and youth; and workers and trade unions.

11. At the same (parallel) meeting, the Commission held a discussion on the Asian and Pacific region, during which the outcome of the regional implementation meeting was presented by the Vice-Chair of the Commission (Philippines).

12. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the following panellists: Satoshi Marao, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Ibaraki (Japan) and Masakazu Ichimura, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

13. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of the United States and Australia as well as by the observers for Kazakhstan, Indonesia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and the Republic of Korea.

14. Statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: scientific and technological community; indigenous people; farmers; and children and youth.

15. At its 3rd (parallel) meeting, the Commission held a discussion on the Latin America and the Caribbean region, during which the outcome of the regional implementation meeting was presented by the representative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

16. At the same (parallel) meeting, presentations were made by Fernando Escalona (Argentina) and Janil Greenaway (Antigua and Barbuda).

17. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, the United States and Brazil, as well as by the observers for Chile, Mexico and Bolivia (Plurinational State of).

18. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: business and industry; and scientific and technological community.

19. Also at the same (parallel) meeting, the Commission held a discussion on the European region, during which an opening statement was made by the

representative of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the outcome of the regional implementation meeting was presented by the Vice-Chairs of the Commission (Germany and Croatia). At the same (parallel) meeting, presentations were made by the following panellists: Victoria Thoresen (Norway); and Patrick Chevalier (Canada).

20. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representative of the United States and the observer for the Netherlands.

21. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

22. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: children and youth; non-governmental organizations; and women.

23. At its 4th meeting, on 4 May, the Commission held a discussion on the Western Asian region, during which the outcome of the regional implementation meeting was presented by the representative of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

24. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the following panellists: Abdulbasit Sairafi (Saudi Arabia) and Anhar Hegazi (ESCWA).

25. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the observers for Cambodia, Egypt and Kazakhstan.

26. A statement was also made by the observer for Palestine.

27. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: farmers; and non-governmental organizations.

28. Also at the 4th meeting, the Commission held a discussion on cross-regional perspectives, during which the Director of the Environment, Housing and Land Management Division, ECE made a statement.

29. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of the United States, Guatemala, Switzerland, Brazil and Nigeria as well as by the observers for the Sudan and Cambodia.

30. A statement was made by the representative of the African Union.

31. A statement was also made by the representative of UNIDO.

32. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: farmers; children and youth; non-governmental organizations; indigenous people; and women.

33. At its 5th and 6th (parallel) meetings, on 4 and 5 May, the Commission held thematic discussions on transport.

34. At the 5th meeting, on 4 May, following the screening of a video presentation, entitled "Making things happen with bus rapid transit (BRT)", on an innovative approach to transportation, the representative of the Division for Sustainable Development introduced the report of the Secretary-General on transport as contained in document E/CN.17/2010/4.

35. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the following panellists: André Lago, Head, Division of Sustainable Development and Environmental Policy,

Ministry of External Relations of Brazil and Allison Davis, Senior Transportation Planner, Arup Consultants.

36. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Nigeria (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group), the United States, France, Canada, Israel, Brazil, China, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Russian Federation as well as by the observers for Yemen (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Micronesia (Federated States of) (on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States that are Members of the United Nations), Lebanon (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Arab Group), Senegal and Uganda.

37. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

38. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: children and youth; workers and trade unions; and business and industry.

39. At the 6th (parallel) meeting, on 5 May, following the screening of a video presentation, entitled "Rural transport improves lives across Viet Nam", prepared by the World Bank and the Government of Viet Nam, presentations were made by the following panellists: Eran Feitelson, Department of Geography, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, and María Arce Moreira, Executive Secretary, International Forum for Rural Transport and Development.

40. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the following representatives: Switzerland, India, Australia, Cuba, Japan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Argentina, Gabon, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Guatemala, Israel and Nigeria as well as by the observers for Norway, Indonesia, Mexico, Egypt, Zambia, Barbados, Jordan, the Republic of Korea, Maldives (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Alliance of Small Island States), Morocco, Mongolia and Thailand.

41. A statement was made by the observer for Palestine.

42. A statement was made by the representative of UNEP.

43. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: indigenous people; children and youth; farmers; non-governmental organizations; scientific and technological community; and women.

44. At its 5th and 6th (parallel) meetings, on 4 and 5 May, the Commission held thematic discussions on chemicals.

45. At the 5th meeting, following the screening of a video presentation, entitled "Safer chemicals within REACH", on how the European Community regulations on chemicals and their safe use works, a representative of the Division for Sustainable Development introduced the report of the Secretary-General on chemicals, as contained in document E/CN.17/2010/5.

46. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Ivan Eržen, State Secretary of the Ministry of Health of Slovenia; Jamidu Katima, University of Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania; and Pat Mooney, Executive Director of ETC Group.

47. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Canada, Israel, Poland (on behalf of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) regional focal point for Central and Eastern Europe and on behalf of countries of the Central and Eastern Europe region), Uruguay, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Cuba, Australia, Argentina, Pakistan, Switzerland, Brazil, Guatemala, India and the United States, as well as by observers for the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Lebanon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Arab Group), Slovenia, Indonesia, Norway, Finland, Mexico and Senegal.

48. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

49. A statement was also made by the representative of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

50. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: children and youth; business and industry; and indigenous people.

51. At the 6th (parallel) meeting, on 5 May, following the screening of two video presentations, entitled "How do toxic chemicals reach the Arctic" and "The seven deadly plastics", presentations were made by the following panellists: Craig Boljkovac, Manager of Chemicals and Waste Management Programme, United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and Gillian Guthrie (Jamaica), SAICM regional focal point for Latin America and the Caribbean.

52. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Japan, South Africa, France, China, Nigeria, Sweden and Namibia, as well as by the observers for Austria, Kenya, Turkey, Solomon Islands (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Association of Small Island States), Spain, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Uganda, Botswana (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), the Republic of Korea, Senegal and the Czech Republic.

53. A statement was made by the representative of the African Union.

54. Statements were also made by the representatives of UNEP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

55. Statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: non-governmental organizations; workers and trade unions; women; scientific and technological community; farmers; and children and youth.

56. At its 7th (parallel) and 8th (parallel) meetings, on 5 and 6 May, the Commission held thematic discussions on mining.

57. At its 7th (parallel) meeting, a representative of the Division for Sustainable Development introduced the report of the Secretary-General on mining, as contained in document E/CN.17/2010/7.

58. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the following panellists: Patrick Chevalier, Director, Strategic Outreach and Partnerships Division, Natural Resources Canada and Juana Kuramoto Huaman, Economist and Consultant.

59. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Nigeria (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that

are members of the Group of African States), Guatemala, China, France, the United States, Canada, Australia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Switzerland and Israel as well as by the observers for Indonesia (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Lebanon (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Arab Group), Ghana, Chile, Senegal and Bolivia (Plurinational State of).

60. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

61. A statement was also made by the representative of UNEP.

62. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: indigenous people; scientific and technological community; and business and industry.

63. At the 8th (parallel) meeting, presentations were made by the following panellists: Gavin Hilson, Lecturer in Environment and Development, University of Reading, and Victoria Lucia Tauli Corpuz, former Chair of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

64. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of India, Japan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Colombia, Argentina, South Africa, Gabon, Guatemala, Nigeria, Sweden, Canada, the Russian Federation, Namibia and the United States, as well as the observers for Austria, Turkey, Norway, Kenya, Jamaica (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Association of Small Island States), Egypt and Thailand.

65. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the observer for Palestine.

66. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: non-governmental organizations; women; children and youth; workers and trade unions; and indigenous people.

67. At its 7th (parallel) and 8th (parallel) meetings, the Commission held thematic discussions on waste management.

68. At the 7th (parallel) meeting, following the screening of a video presentation, entitled "Biogas from food waste", by Appropriate Rural Technology Institute (India), a representative of the Division for Sustainable Development introduced the report of the Secretary-General on waste management, as contained in document E/CN.17/2010/6.

69. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Paul Connett, Executive Director, American Environmental Health Studies Project, and Sonia Jeanet Arévalo Serrano, Public Services of Bogota, Colombia.

70. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Alliance of Small Island States), Australia, Canada, the United States, Colombia, Switzerland, China, Israel, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and the Russian Federation, as well as the observers for Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Nepal, Indonesia, Turkey and Norway.

71. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

72. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: non-governmental organizations; and women.

73. At the 8th (parallel) meeting, presentations were made by the following panellists: Ermanno Santilli, Executive Vice-President, International Relations, Magnegas Corporation, Florida, and Prasad Modak, Executive President, Environmental Management Centre, India.

74. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Nigeria, Japan, South Africa, Gabon, Argentina, India, Sweden, France, Brazil, Pakistan, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Germany, and Israel, as well as by observers for Cambodia, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Chile, Senegal, Italy, Indonesia, Zambia, Uganda, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam, the Republic of Korea and Kenya.

75. A statement was made by the observer for Palestine.

76. A statement was also made by the representative of the African Union.

77. A statement was made by the representative of UNEP.

78. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: farmers, business and industry, children and youth; and indigenous people.

79. At its 9th and 10th meetings, on 6 and 7 May, the Commission held thematic discussions on a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns.

80. At the 9th meeting, the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development introduced the report of the Secretary-General on a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, as contained in document E/CN.17/2010/8.

81. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Stephen Spratt, Head, Sustainable Markets Group, International Institute for Environment and Development; Cleo Migiro, Chair, African Round Table on Sustainable Consumption and Production; and Helio Matter, President and member, Board of Directors, Akatu Institute for Conscious Consumption.

82. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of China, Israel, the United States, Guatemala, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nigeria, Canada and Switzerland, as well as by the observers for Singapore (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Solomon Islands (on behalf of the States Members that are members of the Association of the Small Island States), Indonesia, Cambodia and the Republic of Korea.

83. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

84. Statements were also made by the representatives of UNIDO, ILO and UNEP.

85. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: farmers; non-governmental organizations; and children and youth.

86. At the 10th meeting, presentations were made by the following panellists: Greg Norris, Visiting Scientist, Harvard School of Public Health, and President of Sylvatica, and Anna Jones-Crabtree, Executive Director, Western Collective of Six Regional/Research Station Forest Service Units, United States Department of Agriculture.

87. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, Argentina, Brazil, the Netherlands, South Africa, Colombia, Australia, France, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, India, Mauritius and Saudi Arabia, as well as the observers for Italy, Finland, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Turkey, Morocco, Barbados, Norway, Senegal, Thailand, Kenya, Uganda, Viet Nam, Egypt and Sri Lanka.

88. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: workers and trade unions; women; scientific and technological community; business and industry; and indigenous people.

89. At the 11th meeting, on 7 May, the Commission held a thematic discussion on interlinkages and cross-cutting issues and means of implementation.

90. Following the screening of a video documentary, entitled "Sustainable Development — 15 challenges", statements were made by the following panellists: Wolfgang Sachs, Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy, Germany, and Marina Fischer Kowalski, Director, Vienna Institute of Social Ecology, Faculty for Interdisciplinary Studies.

91. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Canada, Switzerland, Argentina, Guatemala, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Brazil and the Russian Federation, as well as by observers for Yemen (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Indonesia, Norway, Italy, Morocco and Mauritania.

92. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

93. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: non-governmental organizations; farmers; workers and trade unions; children and youth; women; and indigenous people.

B. Review of the progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation

94. In accordance with Commission resolution 17/2 and in accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2009/236, the Commission devoted its 12th and the first part of its 13th meetings, on 10 May, to a meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation (see the report of the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.218/PC/1).

95. The second part of the 13th meeting was devoted to "Small Island Developing States Day", in accordance with Commission resolution 13/1 and decision 16/2, and in accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2008/237.

96. At the 13th meeting, the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the integrated review of the thematic cluster of mining, chemicals, waste management, transport and sustainable consumption and production in small island developing States, as contained in document E/CN.17/2010/14.

97. At the same meeting, the Commission held a panel discussion under agenda item 3 as a whole, in the context of the small island developing States, during which presentations were made by the following panellists: Bruce Graham, Environmental Consultant, New Zealand; Immaculate Javia, Trainer in small-scale mining, Papua New Guinea; Amjad Abdullah, Director-General, Ministry of Environment, Maldives; and Gordon Bispham, Chair of the Urban Development Commission and Small Island Developing States Expert for the Caribbean Policy Development Centre.

98. Also at the same meeting, an interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Saudi Arabia and Cuba as well as by the observers for Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Spain (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Grenada (on behalf the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Alliance of Small Island States).

99. A statement was made by the representative of the International Telecommunication Union.

100. Statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: workers and trade unions; farmers; and women.

101. At the 14th meeting, on 11 May, the Commission held a multi-stakeholder dialogue on partnerships for sustainable development and heard an introductory statement by the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development.

102. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Maleye Diop, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Public-Private Partnerships for Local Service Delivery for the Millennium Development Goals; Heather Allen, Sustainable Low Carbon Transport Partnership, and Senior Manager for Sustainable Development, International Association of Public Transport, Belgium; Mauricio Fernandes, Development Committee of the International Year of Planet Earth and Head of the Development Partnership Team; Amir Dossal, Executive Director of United Nations Office for Partnerships; Christian Brodhag, Professor, École nationale supérieure des mines de Saint-Étienne, France and Ronald Jumeau, Permanent Representative of Seychelles to the United Nations.

103. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of France, the United States, Switzerland and India, as well as by the observers for Egypt, Senegal, Indonesia and Mauritania.

104. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

105. Statements were made by representatives of the following major groups: women; children and youth; indigenous people; non-governmental organizations; local authorities; workers and trade unions; business and industry; scientific and technological community; and farmers.

106. At the 15th meeting, on 11 May, the Commission held a multi-stakeholder dialogue on advancing the implementation of the decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

107. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; Thomas Forster, Co-Director of International Partners for Sustainable Agriculture; Felix Dodds, Executive Director of the Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future; and Kaire Mbuende, Permanent Representative of Namibia to the United Nations.

108. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Nigeria, the United States, India and Brazil, as well as by the observers for Benin, Zambia and Senegal.

109. A statement was also made by the representative of the European Union.

110. A statement was made by the representative of the World Health Organization (WHO). Statements were made by representatives of the following major groups: farmers (also on behalf of the major groups of business and industry and scientific and technological community); women; indigenous people; non-governmental organizations; children and youth; local authorities; workers and trade unions; and scientific and technological community.

C. High-level segment

111. The Commission held its high-level segment at its 16th to 21st meetings, from 12 to 14 May 2010.

112. At the 16th meeting, on 12 May, the Chair convened the high-level segment and made an opening statement.

113. At the same meeting, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed the Commission.

114. Also at the 16th meeting, a statement was made by the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations and President of the Economic and Social Council, Hamidon Ali.

115. At the same meeting, the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations and Vice-President of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, Leslie Kojo Christian, delivered a statement on behalf of the President of the General Assembly, Ali Abdussalam Treki.

116. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Netherlands and Chair of the seventeenth session of the Commission, Gerda Verburg.

117. A presentation was made by the Co-Chair of the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management, Ernst Ulrich von Weizsacker.

118. A statement was made by the President of the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

119. Statements were also made by the representatives of Gabon, South Africa, Nigeria, Sweden, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Japan, Saudi Arabia and Namibia as well as by the observers for Yemen (on behalf of the States Members of

the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Nepal (on behalf of the least developed countries), Chile (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Rio Group), Lebanon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Arab Group), Spain, Italy, Ireland, Ghana, Egypt, the Republic of Moldova and Kenya.

120. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

121. At the 17th meeting, on 12 May, the Commission held parallel high-level round tables on sustainable production and consumption patterns and on managing mining for sustainable development.

122. At the high-level round table on sustainable production and consumption patterns, a statement was made by the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

123. At the same meeting, presentations were made by the following panellists: Achim Steiner, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme; Ernst Ulrich von Weizsacker, Co-Chair, International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management; Kaarin Taipale, Chair, Marrakech Task Force on Sustainable Building and Construction; and Mohan Munasinghe, Chair, Munasinghe Institute for Development, Sri Lanka.

124. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Iran (Islamic Republic of), Poland, Germany, India, Israel, Nigeria, the United States, South Africa, France, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Switzerland, Argentina, the Russian Federation, Cuba and Guatemala, as well as by the observers for Singapore (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Spain (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Barbados, Cameroon, Finland, Egypt, Indonesia, Thailand, Turkey, Ecuador, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Republic of Korea and the Sudan.

125. A statement was made by the representative of ILO.

126. Statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: children and youth; and farmers.

127. At the high-level round table on managing mining for sustainable development, a statement was made by the Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women.

128. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Samuel J. Spiegel, Department of Geography, University of Cambridge; Kathryn McPhail, Senior Program Director, International Council on Mining and Metals; and Roderick Eggert, Professor and Director, Division of Economics and Business, Colorado School of Mines.

129. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Estonia, Belgium, Nigeria, Australia, India, Argentina, Guatemala and Gabon, as well as by the observers for Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Chile, Cambodia, Peru, Turkey, Ghana, Kenya, Mongolia, Thailand, the United Republic of Tanzania, Finland and the Sudan.

130. A statement was made by the observer for Palestine.

131. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

132. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: women; indigenous people; business and industry; children and youth; non-governmental organizations; and workers and trade unions.

133. At its 18th meeting, on 13 May, the Commission held an interactive ministerial dialogue with representatives of the United Nations system and heads of the Governing Councils of United Nations organizations and major groups, at which the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs made an introductory statement.

134. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

135. A statement was also made by the representative of UNEP.

136. Statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: farmers; scientific and technological community; business and industry; workers and trade unions; local authorities; non-governmental organizations; indigenous people; children and youth; women; and farmers.

137. Statements were made by the representatives of Pakistan, Argentina, the United States, India, Switzerland and Colombia, as well as the observers for Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Viet Nam, Serbia, Egypt, Ghana and Mexico.

138. Statements were made by the representatives of the Stockholm Convention and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and UNEP.

139. Statements were made by the representatives of WHO and the Global Environment Facility.

140. At its 19th meeting, on 13 May, the Commission held parallel high-level round tables on meeting the challenge of transportation needs in the twenty-first century and on strategies for sustainable chemicals and waste management.

141. At the high-level round table on meeting the challenge of transportation needs in the twenty-first century, a statement was made by the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs.

142. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Jens Huegel, Head of Sustainable Development, International Road Transport Union; James Leather, Principal Transport Specialist, Infrastructure Division, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Asian Development Bank; Jan Kubiš, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Europe; and Brigid Hynes-Cherin, Regional Administrator, United States Department of Transportation.

143. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which interventions were made by the representatives of Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), South Africa, Ukraine, India, Germany, the United States, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Brazil, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Argentina and Guatemala, as well as by the observers for Spain (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the Dominican Republic, the Sudan, Austria, Cambodia and Peru.

144. A statement was made by the observer for Palestine.

145. Statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: scientific and technological community; local authorities; non-governmental organizations; children and youth; women; and farmers (also on behalf of workers and trade unions).

146. At the high-level round table on strategies for sustainable chemicals and waste management, a statement was made by the Chief of the Global Policy Branch, Division for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

147. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Nikola Ružinski, State Secretary of Environment of Croatia; N. C. Vasuki, Solid Waste Management Consultant; Donald Cooper, Executive Secretary of the Stockholm Convention; and Martin Kayser, Co-Chair of the Chemical Policy and Health Leadership Group, International Council of Chemical Associations.

148. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of France, Sweden, Romania, Estonia, Poland, Japan, Israel, Nigeria, Guatemala, Argentina, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Switzerland, Australia, Colombia and India, as well as by the observers for the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Ireland, Thailand, Indonesia, Spain, the Republic of Korea, Turkey, Finland, Kenya, Mongolia, Mexico, the Czech Republic and the Sudan.

149. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

150. A statement was made by the representative of UNDP.

151. A statement was also made by the representative of the major group of farmers.

152. At the 20th meeting, on 14 May, the Commission held an interactive ministerial discussion on the topic "The way forward", at which the Chair made an opening statement.

153. An interactive discussion ensued, during which interventions were made by the representatives of Argentina, South Africa, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Sweden, India, Pakistan, the United States, Guatemala, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Nigeria, as well as by the observers for Yemen (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Grenada (on behalf of the members of the Alliance of Small Island States that are members of the United Nations), Indonesia, Spain, Barbados, Norway, Kenya and Senegal.

154. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

155. Statements were also made by the representatives of UNEP and UNIDO.

156. Statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: women; scientific and technological community; local authorities; business and industry; farmers; workers and trade unions; and children and youth.

157. At the 21st meeting, on 14 May, the Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed the Commission.

158. Closing statements were made by the representative of Canada, as well as by the observers for Yemen (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Spain (on behalf of the European Union), Mauritania and Kazakhstan.

159. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: farmers; scientific and technological community; business and industry; workers and trade unions; local authorities; non-governmental organizations; indigenous people; children and youth; and women.

160. A concluding statement was made by the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development.

161. The Chair made concluding remarks and declared the eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development closed.

D. Chair's summary

162. At the 15th meeting, the Chair introduced part one of the summary of the discussion.

163. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Cuba, Japan, Canada, Nigeria, the United States and Brazil as well as by the observers for Yemen (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Egypt, Chile, Ghana, Mexico, Norway, Turkey, Indonesia and Cambodia.

164. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

165. Statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: indigenous people; farmers; workers and trade unions; and children and youth.

166. At the 21st meeting, the Chair introduced part two of the summary of the discussion.

167. Statements were made by the representatives of Australia, Cuba, Argentina, Canada, the United States, Nigeria, Mauritius, the Russian Federation, India and Japan, as well as by the observers for Chile, Grenada (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Alliance of Small Island States), Barbados, Indonesia, Yemen (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Morocco and Switzerland.

168. A statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

169. Statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: indigenous people; workers and trade unions; and non-governmental organizations.

170. The Chair's summary read as follows:

Part one
Review of thematic issues

I. Introduction

1. The debate is rich and varied and it is not possible in a Chair's summary to capture all the nuances nor the different positions taken by participating delegations. The following summary tries to reflect the breadth of the discussions, highlight the issues that were addressed, and give the sense of the scope and content of the

different views set out during the debate. It is not intended to reflect a consensus since clearly it is the Chair's perception of the debate, and not an agreed text.

2. Sustainable development allows humanity to protect and improve life in all its forms and expressions. It recognizes the right of all people to improve their quality of life and live in a healthy environment. It envisages a transformation of values and principles that directly influence development strategies and lifestyles.

3. The next 10 years are critical for sustainable development. The recent series of crises have highlighted shared vulnerabilities and created a new sense of urgency. They have underscored the need for greater international cooperation simultaneously to accelerate the pursuit of poverty eradication and the Millennium Development Goals, maintain and enhance the development momentum, and halt and reverse the mounting pressure on the Earth's ecosystems.

4. This gives an increased salience to the deliberations of the eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as well as the prospective decisions of the nineteenth session of the Commission due to take place in May 2011.

5. The themes of this biennial cycle of the Commission, namely, transport, chemicals, waste management, mining, and a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, go to the very heart of the sustainable development challenge. They affect almost the entire range of human needs and ecological imperatives, including food security, health, gender equity, labour rights, the rights of indigenous people and local communities, biodiversity, climate change, ecological footprint, physical mobility, environmental liabilities, agricultural as well as industrial productivity, social equity, and economic growth.

6. These themes are interlinked with each other as well as with other sustainable development themes, including those of past and future cycles of the Commission and of several forthcoming high-level events, most notably the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be convened in 2012 in Brazil. For example, sustainable patterns of consumption and production are needed to reduce the gross disparities in consumption levels between the poor and the rich, the material and energy intensity of economies and the generation of wastes, and generally to enable the attainment of higher living standards with reduced environmental impacts. Promoting changes in attitudes and behaviour at different levels, leading to cleaner and fairer trade as well as better informed producers and consumers, will make sustainable production and consumption possible.

7. The themes of the current cycle of the Commission provide an opportunity to initiate coordinated and coherent action on several significant dimensions of the sustainable development challenge. A strong and coherent international framework with adequate financial support in all the themes under review, can help to consolidate gains, scale up successful experiences, leverage local, national and regional initiatives, and support effective partnerships for action.

8. Translating decisions in actions is one of the most important challenges in the Commission. To ensure that decisions of the Commission can be effectively implemented, it is important during the nineteenth session to arrive at decisions that are concrete and actionable and which add value to existing commitments. It is also important to enhance mechanisms for more effective review of progress with implementation.

II. Opening of the session

9. The substantive part of the eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development was opened on 3 May 2010 by the Chair, Luis Alberto Ferraté Felice, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources of Guatemala. In his opening statement, the Chair emphasized the complexity of the issues under consideration (transport, chemicals, waste management, mining, and a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production), and the strong interlinkages between them. He stressed the need for transparent and open dialogue and, above all, the urgent need to act. The global financial and economic crises that affect the international community are different from the environment and sustainable development crisis, because the latter does not have a clear end in sight and its consequences are still not yet fully understood.

10. The Chair drew the attention of the participants to salient aspects of the themes under review. He noted that mining is a very sensitive issue; while it contributes to income generation and government revenues, it can also be a source of social conflict and environmental and health hazards. He highlighted the need to benefit communities directly impacted by mining activities as well as to manage mineral resources so as to provide greater benefits for a country's citizens. Sustainable consumption and production needs to be linked to the eradication of poverty and food security if it is to be relevant to developing countries. Indigenous peoples can offer valuable lessons on sustainable consumption and production practices. Countries are making progress, taking actions in each of the thematic areas. Yet, to be able to scale up and replicate good practices, developing countries and countries with economies in transition will need transfer of appropriate technologies that do not generate dependence, increased official development assistance with new and additional resources, and capacity-building. Countries should seek to leapfrog over obsolete technologies and practices towards efficient production and consumption and infrastructures that are of low maintenance.

11. In his opening remarks (delivered by the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development), the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs emphasized the need to bring consumption and production patterns within the carrying capacities of ecosystems while ensuring upward convergence in standards of living across the planet. He stressed further that while some advances towards sustainable management have happened in all areas under consideration, progress has been limited by the continuing low priority and underresourcing of these sectors, the dearth of quality data, weak technical and institutional capacities in developing countries, and inadequate transfer and diffusion of technologies.

12. The outcomes of intersessional events, namely the International Consultative Meeting on Expanding Waste Management Services in Developing Countries (Tokyo, 18 and 19 March 2010), the international expert group meeting entitled "United Nations Forum on Climate Change Mitigation, Fuel Efficiency and Sustainable Urban Transport" (Seoul, 16 and 17 March 2010), the Workshop on Case Studies in the Sound Management of Chemicals (Geneva, 3 and 4 December 2009), and the Inaugural Meeting of the Regional 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Forum in Asia (Tokyo, 11 and 12 November 2009) were presented as contributions to the eighteenth session of the Commission by delegates of the Governments that had organized the events as well as the Executive Secretary of the Stockholm Convention (for the reports, see http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_csd18_meetothe.shtml).

III. Overall review: general statements

13. Delegates and major groups addressed themselves to the overarching issues of sustainable development, as well as the specific themes of the current cycle, and the experiences and lessons from the different regions. The main points on thematic and regional issues are reflected in the relevant sections.

14. The eighteenth session of the Commission is taking place at a crucial time as the international community is preparing for several high-level meetings, including the High-Level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals, the High-Level Event on a Five-Year Review of the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy (for which the current session of the Commission serves as the preparatory committee) and the high-level event on biodiversity, as well as the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

15. The need was highlighted to address the five themes in a holistic and integrated manner within the context of sustainable development, taking into consideration its three pillars, economic, social and environmental. Many delegates underlined the adverse impact of the economic and financial crisis on providing adequate means of implementation. They called for an increase in official development assistance, new and additional financial resources and reduced debt burdens and trade restrictions.

16. Many delegations noted that people living under foreign occupation face many challenges in meeting sustainable development goals, particularly with regard to the current thematic cluster, in particular because of lack of access to transportation and poor chemical and waste management. This poses serious threats to human health and environment. It was suggested that those people be compensated for the damages they have suffered in that regard. One delegation has expressed a concern over the politicization of the deliberations of the Commission.

17. Delegates and major groups reiterated the need for increased and enhanced partnerships among all stakeholders and, in that regard, noted favourably the convening power of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

18. Many interventions mentioned that achieving sustainable development requires active participation of all major groups and the application of science, engineering and the promotion of innovation.

19. Many delegates emphasized the need for technology transfer without creating dependency and capacity-building for developing countries and countries with economies in transition in order to overcome the obstacles, constraints and challenges in the five thematic areas under discussion.

20. Many countries highlighted the particular conditions and special needs of the developing countries, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa, the small island developing States, the least developed countries, the landlocked developing countries and mountainous countries.

21. Many delegations expressed their commitment to a fruitful and productive review of the Mauritius Strategy, including the current session of the Commission serving as a preparatory committee for the High-Level Review. They emphasized that the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy of Implementation remain the essential blueprints for addressing the sustainable

development needs of small island developing States, and they called upon the international community to embark on a new era of cooperation in that regard.

22. Many delegates noted climate change's adverse impacts on sustainable development, including through impacts on transport infrastructure, water availability and use of chemicals, and emphasized that progress in changing consumption and production patterns and transport mix and technologies, and reducing emissions from mining and mineral processing and waste management can all contribute to mitigating climate change.

23. Delegates and representatives of major groups stressed the need for urgent action and called for development of a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production.

24. Delegates stressed accountability and transparency as well as open and effective participation of all actors.

IV. Regional discussions

25. Five regional discussions and one cross-regional interactive discussion were organized to provide an opportunity for presentations of the outcomes of the regional implementation meetings and for exchanging experiences on region-specific barriers and constraints, lessons learned and best practices in relation to the thematic cluster of issues under review.

26. Participants highlighted the need to address the gap between policy development and implementation, and many emphasized the continued need for increased technology transfer and capacity-building on the cluster issues, as well as financial support. They emphasized the importance of policy coherence and integration at the regional, subregional, national and local levels.

Cross-regional discussions

27. Participants highlighted the important interlinkages among the themes of the current cycle, and between the current and previous cycles, as well as their linkage to food security, climate change and the financial crisis. All themes, in particular the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, are relevant to discussions on a green economy in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development, to take place in the preparatory process and during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. The large number of existing cross-regional partnerships and joint initiatives demonstrates the potential for cooperation, including sharing of lessons learned. An important next step is to focus on joint initiatives, notably for replicating best practices, including replicable methodologies, and the creation of networks of experts.

28. The need to promote gender mainstreaming and equitable approaches in regional activities was highlighted. It was noted that indigenous peoples, especially women and children, are disproportionately vulnerable to toxic chemicals from industrial activities and mining and do not have adequate participation in decision-making processes. It is important to ensure that participation modalities are sensitive to cultural values and practices, while assuring the fullest participation of women.

29. Speakers recognized the contribution of partnerships, South-South cooperation, North-South and triangular cooperation in advancing interregional initiatives. These include the Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles, the Bio-Energy Partnership and the Asia-Europe SWITCH Partnership. European Union-African Union collaboration was cited, including on agriculture and food security.

30. Significant examples of South-South cooperation were given, including for bus rapid transit, sustainable biofuels, water management and small-scale renewable energy. In North-South cooperation, there is a need for clean technology transfer, for example, related to solid waste management and the promotion of green trade, and enhancement of tourism for sustainable development.

31. Given the role of many developing countries as manufacturing hubs, it is essential to find solutions to cleaner production, including support for National Cleaner Production Centres, which would not only have social, economic and environmental benefits, but raise productivity and create jobs.

32. With respect to means of implementation, the need for predictable and additional financial resources was again highlighted in order to translate decisions at the Commission on Sustainable Development into concrete programmes and actions. A suggestion was made to link the discussions of the Commission with existing processes and mechanisms that deal specifically with financing for development, as well as to engage the banking sector, including international financial institutions, more actively in sustainable development financing.

Africa

33. African delegates emphasized the need for financial resources, technology transfer and capacity-building in order to bridge the gap between policy and implementation as well as the importance of policy coherence and integration across the themes at all levels. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), which has been integrated into the African Union, addresses all five themes of the current cycle of the Commission.

34. There is a need to strengthen critical transport infrastructure such as roads, seaports and airports. The African Union Commission, with the African Development Bank and NEPAD, has launched a joint tripartite initiative known as the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa.

35. The need for the safe management and handling of chemicals was noted, especially as Africa will need greater access to chemicals for agriculture and the process of industrialization. Local governments often face a lack of capacity and financing, in particular with regard to the safe disposal of electronic waste.

36. African countries have made progress in the ratification of international agreements, the participation in intergovernmental processes and the introduction of national policies relevant to the themes. Most African countries have ratified or acceded to relevant international instruments, including the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. In addition, 27 African countries thus far have adopted the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa. Still, concerted efforts are needed to translate ratification of these instruments into sustainable development outcomes, including the protocol of liability and compensation of the Basel Convention.

37. African countries noted that mining could constitute a basis for sustainable development in Africa, and took stock of the sector's encouraging progress in the implementation of corporate social and environmental responsibility measures. Participants indicated the need for support for the implementation of the Africa Mining Vision 2050; forging horizontal and vertical linkages was also seen as important in the advancement of a sustainable mining sector.

38. The Africa region has shown leadership in being the first to adopt a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, which has been endorsed by the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment. Pilot projects have been developed on sustainable cities and waste management. Agriculture and food systems are seen as important to the sustainable consumption and production agenda in Africa, given the high rates of food insecurity, malnutrition and economic dependence on the agriculture sector in many countries. The importance of adopting a bold global sustainable consumption and production programme was stressed, including provisions for additional resources for further implementation.

Latin America and the Caribbean

39. Countries of the region highlighted the need for greater financial assistance, technology access and capacity-building for sustainable development to eradicate poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the need to scale up best practices that have worked in the region.

40. In the transport sector, Latin America and the Caribbean have had notable success with the development of bus rapid transit systems and biofuels. The bus rapid transit model pioneered in some regional cities is being replicated in the region and beyond. The region has been a leader in the production and use of alternative transport fuels, including biofuels. There have been improvements in road safety. Remaining challenges include urban sprawl, heavy reliance on private transport, weak coordination of policies for different transport modes, and high interregional and intraregional transportation costs, notably in the Caribbean small island developing States.

41. Sound chemicals management needs to be assigned higher national and international priority and resourced accordingly, to reduce negative impact on the environment and human health. A regional SAICM implementation plan, currently under discussion, could help to remedy current weaknesses. However, the three chemical conventions need financial resources in order to improve implementation.

42. Local authorities' capacity in the area of waste management could be strengthened. There is a need for consolidation of existing infrastructure for hazardous waste disposal as well as new infrastructure development in this area. Support to integrated waste management practices should be strengthened, including through North-South and South-South cooperation. Some participants called for business and industry to increase their roles in waste management in the region, bringing needed financing.

43. In the mining industry, best practices of corporate social responsibility remain limited, in part owing to the high competition and regulatory challenges faced by Governments. The lack of respect by the mining industry for indigenous peoples' rights and cultures has resulted in opposition to mining. The lack of regulation has

led to informal and illegal activities in the mining sector. Support for investment in local infrastructure, and development of local community services should be among the core objectives of mining companies.

44. Progress has been made in the development of regional and subregional action plans on sustainable consumption and production. Some countries have implemented mechanisms to accelerate sustainable consumption and production, and common policies for cooperation have been approved by regional organizations. Nevertheless, consumption patterns continue to be unsustainable and characterized by limited consumer awareness. Greater technical and financial support is needed for small- and medium-scale enterprises, which often lack access to the latest clean technologies.

45. The high vulnerability of the small island developing States was recognized as were their special challenges and needs with respect to waste management, hazardous chemicals and transport, particularly transboundary waste disposal at sea and in the oceans.

46. While some delegations noted the linkage between the current thematic cycle and green economy, others raised serious questions and concerns regarding the definition of a "green economy" and its relevance to poverty eradication and social equity aspects in the region. The importance of indigenous peoples' contribution to a discussion of a green economy was emphasized, taking into consideration their traditional knowledge in managing natural resources and adapting to severe droughts and flooding over centuries.

Asia and the Pacific

47. Impressive progress has been made in poverty eradication in many countries, but challenges remain with respect to the themes under review, particularly in sustainable consumption and production. A need for a holistic approach was highlighted, one that integrates all the themes into national sustainable development strategies and other development planning frameworks. Planning is under way for the sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, to be held in Kazakhstan in 2010.

48. Air quality has improved in many cities in the region though most pollutant levels remain above World Health Organization air quality standards. The need for a reduction in emissions from motor vehicles through the adoption of more stringent standards was highlighted. The contribution of public-private partnerships in the operation of mass transit systems in the region was noted.

49. On chemicals, needed actions include the ratification and implementation of international agreements, the strengthening of technical assistance and training of local personnel, and the integration of chemical management into national development priorities.

50. Some countries face challenges not only in managing current waste streams, but also in the safe management and disposal of past waste accumulation, in particular from the mining sector.

51. The demand for minerals in the region has substantially increased, including the demand for rare metals such as the rare earth elements needed for the production of clean technologies. The need for effective implementation of corporate social and environmental responsibility, the protection of indigenous peoples, including their

culture, technologies, health and human rights, as well as benefit-sharing with local communities was stressed. In that regard, the ethical dimension was highlighted through the "geoethics" concept.

52. Countries in the region have undertaken a number of initiatives and national approaches to advance sustainable consumption and production. These include Green Growth, Circular Economy, 3Rs, Sufficiency Economy and Gross National Happiness.

Western Asia

53. In the transport sector, countries have made efforts to improve transport efficiency, use cleaner fuels and enhance regional cooperation. However, greater efforts are needed to promote public transport and to put in place environmental regulations and enforcement.

54. The lack of updated information and access to technologies, and inadequate capacities, insufficient enforcement of regulations, and weak regional coordination remain major impediments to sustainable chemicals management in the region.

55. Some progress has been made in waste collection but in many cases it remains insufficient. New regulations have been adopted but enforcement is inadequate. A comprehensive strategy for waste management is needed to improve waste collection, recycling and disposal. Most Western Asian countries have ratified the Basel Convention.

56. Mining is a critical resource for most countries in the region. Efforts are directed towards achieving integration in the extraction work and industrialization activities. Challenges include infrastructure improvement, capacity-building and a review of existing legislation. Concerns about human rights violations, particularly those of indigenous peoples, related to mining remain high among major groups.

57. Implementing sustainable production and consumption implies facilitating clean technology transfer from developed countries as well as strengthening local clean production capabilities. Countries in the region have established 12 cleaner production centres.

58. The 10-year framework of programmes should focus on water, energy and tourism sectors as well as rural development and education for lifestyle as priorities in the ESCWA region. Some countries are involved in the development of renewable energy resources, with ambitious quantitative targets.

Europe

59. Progress was reported in the implementation of national sustainable development strategies and actions plans on education, formal and informal, and awareness-raising of consumers and producers on sustainable consumption and production. The use of multi-stakeholder partnerships is a key dimension in the development of policies on sustainable consumption and production. Challenges highlighted included how to reorient consumers' behaviour and purchasing choices, and evaluating and internalizing the external costs of production. The life cycle approach was mentioned as a useful tool to implement sustainable consumption and

production policies. A 10-year framework of programmes, including resource commitments, is needed.

60. The importance of the transport sector was highlighted. Transportation needs to be sustainable and should help to mitigate climate change and not contribute to negative impacts on human health. Affordable public transportation is a key issue, notably for older persons. Partnerships of Governments with local authorities can be effective, inter alia, for the development of mass transportation hubs.

61. With regard to chemicals, SAICM was mentioned as an important global framework to achieve the chemicals-related Millennium Development Goals. The example of the European Union Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals (REACH) chemicals legislation system was mentioned.

62. Emphasis was placed on the need to improve resource efficiency in order to reduce waste generation and the European experience with recovery of energy from waste was noted, which can contribute to combating climate change.

63. The main mining-related environmental concerns in the region are related to water use and tailings storage areas. Future areas for action mentioned include the continuing development of a comprehensive policy framework and the need for effective approaches to the funding of mine closures. It was suggested that measures to deal with mine closures, rehabilitation and remediation should first be addressed when mines are opened. It was emphasized that mining needs to minimize its negative impact on the environment and society.

64. Sound and sustainable management of the mining sector requires transparency, good governance and open dialogue, which can be enhanced through partnerships, monitoring of mining through a life cycle assessment approach, and the development of new and clean technologies. Examples of good practices mentioned include the Green Mining Initiative in Canada, the International Council on Mining and Metals Resource Endowment Initiative and the European Union guidance on the development of mining activities.

65. Sustainable consumption and production in the region is considered an important cross-cutting issue linking all the themes under consideration. There is a need to shift to cleaner modes of transport, reinforce public access to information on chemicals, support advanced scientific research, implement the 3R approach, shift towards a resource efficient economic model, decouple economic growth from environmental degradation by increasing resource efficiency, and develop a balanced mix of instruments (incentives/direct regulation) to foster sustainable consumption and production practices.

V. Thematic discussions: transport, chemicals, waste management, mining, and a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns

A. Transport

66. Transport has significant positive and negative impacts. Adequate and affordable transportation networks empower people to move freely, communicate, access employment and education, and exchange goods and services, and can

contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, in particular the eradication of poverty. However, transport is also a major energy user, with negative environmental and social impacts.

67. All modes of transport and their efficient integration are important, including maritime, air transport, road and rail, and non-motorized transport. Multimodal systems can provide an array of options for passenger transport and freight and can enable developing countries to participate fully in international trade as well as fostering national and regional trade. Investment in public transport should be considered as one of the options in a framework to make transport systems more sustainable.

Obstacles, constraints and challenges

68. Basic transport infrastructure and services are still inadequate or lacking in many rural areas of developing countries, making it difficult for the rural poor, including women, youth and children, to access basic services, including those related to health and education, and for workers to access jobs. Approximately 1 billion people live more than 2 kilometres away from the nearest all-weather road. The lack of adequate rural transport infrastructure perpetuates poverty, poses constraints on the marketing of agricultural produce and other income-generation opportunities, and thus hampers efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals.

69. In many developing countries and their metropolitan areas, rapid economic growth and expansion has significantly increased demand for urban transport, worsening traffic congestion and air quality. Barriers to addressing effectively the growing challenges in urban transport include institutional constraints, inadequate financing as well as insufficient data and planning capabilities as well as weak cross-sectoral coordination. Thus, many countries are unable to realize the multiple co-benefits that affordable and efficient urban public transport systems can offer.

70. Motorized transport depends on oil for its energy needs and contributes a growing share to global emissions of greenhouse gases and has negative impact on human health. In many countries, the number of private motor vehicles is expected to continue to grow considerably, but low investment levels for providing safe and clean fuels, including cleaner fossil fuels, may pose a challenge. In many developing countries, people are aware of cleaner and more efficient transport options but such options are often simply not affordable.

71. In many countries, the lack of security for public transport has reduced its attractiveness and economic viability.

72. Many delegations highlighted the particular challenges and the high transport costs faced by least developed, landlocked and mountainous developing countries, as well as by many of the small island developing States.

73. The global financial crisis has led to a reduction of financing for infrastructure development in many developing countries. A few countries stressed the need to buy second-hand transport equipment owing to their financial constraints. This is a less efficient option. Financial support for developing countries should take into account that reality.

Best practices and lessons learned

74. Many successful policies and programmes have been implemented by national and local governments aimed at providing safe, affordable and more efficient transportation, increasing energy efficiency, reducing pollution, congestion and adverse health effects and limiting urban sprawl, as called for in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. The challenge now is scaling up these efforts.

75. Several delegates reported on ongoing programmes to improve road access for rural populations and to integrate rural and urban transport planning. Positive experiences were reported with the introduction of bus rapid transit systems, which can significantly increase transport capacities along urban transport corridors, and typically require considerably less time and money for construction than other options. Some countries highlighted successes with light rail transit and metro systems, and some emphasized progress in providing transport services to people with disabilities. Labour-based road maintenance systems have been implemented successfully by many countries and have enabled access and employment for rural communities.

76. Some countries have also reported on their positive experiences using economic instruments for promoting more sustainable transport modes. Such instruments are based on the polluter-pays principle and contribute to the integration of the external costs of transport. Examples of green transport taxes and fees included the heavy vehicle fee that was introduced in Switzerland in 2001, encouraging a shift in transalpine traffic from roads to railways.

77. Successful examples were cited of congestion-charging to promote more sustainable transport, but their replication may pose challenges in densely populated cities of developing countries where alternate means are not yet available in sufficient supply.

78. Countries are implementing or considering measures to reduce oil dependency and oil consumption in the transport sector as well as to improve fuel quality. These include taxes on energy use and carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions, the elimination of lead, the reduction in sulfur, raising vehicle standards and the reduction of the importation of second-hand cars. Modern information technologies are also being used to reduce transport costs, fuel use and emissions. Some countries have developed water-borne transport as a low-cost and low-carbon alternative.

79. Some partnerships have proven effective in addressing sustainable transport challenges, such as the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles.

80. The contribution of biofuels and flex-fuel cars to sustainable development in some countries was noted, including the need to address the related challenges and opportunities.

81. Many countries are building on initial successes of regional and interregional transport corridor projects, which are of particular importance for landlocked countries.

82. A number of countries are already strengthening efforts in technology development concerning efficiency potentials of conventional drive systems and new technologies such as electric drives, partly accompanied by the setting of corresponding standards.

Way forward

83. Enhancing modal shift, intermodal transport and non-motorized transport, and greater development and use of public transport systems will significantly contribute to sustainable transport and to mobility and accessibility of rural communities.

84. In rural areas the expansion of all-weather road networks with strengthened environmental standards is of paramount importance if significant progress towards the Millennium Development Goals is to be achieved. The particular needs of sub-Saharan Africa must be addressed urgently.

85. International and regional cooperation can facilitate the development of transport corridors and access to ports for landlocked countries.

86. The enhancement of sustainable urban transport requires policy coherence and a holistic approach, including the integration of transport considerations in urban development policies. Integrated land-use planning can enhance the effective use of public transport and non-motorized transport facilities. Many delegations stressed the continuous need for public participation in all decision-making on transport policies and projects.

87. Investments need to be focused on removing infrastructure bottlenecks with a view to improving multimodal transport systems, reducing congestion and saving time and energy resources. The full range of financing and partnership options needs to be considered in this regard, including partnerships across countries, within and between different levels of government — national, regional, and local. Public-private partnerships can have an important role, in particular in the construction and operation of urban transport systems such as the SmartWay Partnership. A mix of standards and market-based instruments were mentioned as useful.

88. Additional financial resources, including for innovative finance schemes, as well as technology transfer and capacity-building are urgently needed to make transport systems in developing countries more sustainable. Bus rapid transit development and integrated transport planning should be considered nationally appropriate mitigation actions qualifying for support under the financing mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

89. International cooperation could be enhanced to develop cleaner, more affordable and sustainable energy systems, including the increased use of renewable energy, to promote access to energy as well as more energy-efficient technologies for transport Initiatives to reduce the impacts of transportation on health and the environment through the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (i.e., the IMO North American Emissions Control Area) serve as good examples of international cooperation. Strengthening transport infrastructure and services will require the enhanced collection and analysis of transport data in many countries, and modern information technologies can be a useful tool.

90. Major investments are being made to provide the energy needed by the transport sector in the future. In the light of the projected growth in transport energy demand and related emissions, accelerated development and dissemination of energy-efficient and cleaner low-carbon transport technologies and their transfer to developing countries is urgently needed. The ecological impact of such investments should be minimized.

91. Measures to improve transport safety and security, including with respect to the needs of women, the disabled, children and youth, are urgently needed.

92. Economic instruments such as an Emission Trading Scheme and taxes, for instance on CO_2 emissions, could be a driver for a more efficient transport system.

B. Chemicals

93. Chemicals have potentially significant positive as well as negative impacts. On the one hand, chemicals can contribute to the health of humans, livestock and other animals, agricultural productivity, energy efficiency and other aspects of sustainable development. On the other hand, the adverse consequences of the unsound management of chemicals for the environment and human health can be significant and long lasting. Those consequences can be most acute in developing countries and for countries with economies in transition. The poorest people, indigenous peoples, women and children are disproportionately at risk.

94. Some progress has been made towards attaining the World Summit on Sustainable Development 2020 goal on the sound management of chemicals, namely, that chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment. However, this progress is insufficient and uneven across countries and regions.

Obstacles, constraints and challenges

95. Gaps in the implementation of the sound management of chemicals exist throughout the life cycle and in both the public and private sectors. They include: insufficient and unavailable information and data on chemical safety and toxicity, especially in national and local languages; insufficient information on chemicals in products; a lack of awareness of the potential risks that chemicals pose to the environment and human health and their environmental liabilities; insufficient human and technical capacity for risk assessment, reduction and monitoring in both government and public interest organizations; inadequate financial and technical resources, in particular for developing countries, for the implementation of multilateral agreements on chemicals, including SAICM.

96. The continuing challenges also include the lack of cost-effective environmentally sound and healthy alternatives to hazardous chemicals; inadequate health and safety for workers and prevention of chemical-related fatalities, injuries and diseases; improving involvement of the general public in policy development processes; the lack of implementation of the principles of the three chemical conventions; limited institutional and technical capacity in developing countries to manage the rapid expansion of the chemical industry; dumping of toxic chemicals and radioactive products and in developing countries and economies in transition, as well as in indigenous areas; and the high cost of remediation of contaminated sites and burden of obsolete chemicals.

97. Currently too little is known about the potential risks of nanoparticles, which are already used in a wide range of domestic, industrial and food products without adequate information regarding their safety.

98. The global production, trade and use of chemicals are increasing, with growth patterns placing an increasing burden of chemicals management on developing

countries and countries with economies in transition, in particular the least developed among them and the small island developing States. As a result, fundamental changes are needed in the way that societies manage chemicals.

Best practices and lessons learned

99. Delegates and major groups recognized that SAICM constitutes an important global multi-stakeholder framework for strengthening capacity for sound chemicals management and narrowing the capacity gap between the developing and the developed countries. The adoption and implementation of multilateral agreements including the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer represents an important step. However, the implementation of most of these agreements is still lagging and requires priority attention, especially regarding the flow of resources and technology transfer.

100. Some delegations welcomed the outcome of the simultaneous extraordinary meeting of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and highlighted the need for continuous cooperation and coordination between the chemical conventions and waste-related instruments.

101. Important actions that have been taken at the national and regional levels include: developing national plans on chemicals management; prohibiting or restricting certain toxic chemicals, particularly pesticides; systematically examining inventories of domestic chemical substances in commerce; establishing risk assessment systems for environment and health; strengthening preparedness for chemical emergencies; developing legislation on liabilities and compensation for environmental damages; coordinating government action to prevent the illegal transboundary shipments of hazardous wastes; implementing regulatory mechanisms such as the European Union REACH, which sets out rules for the registration, evaluation, authorization and restriction of chemicals; and public-private partnerships and voluntary initiatives such as the Canadian Chemicals Management Plan, Responsible Care and the Global Product Strategy. However, some delegations expressed their concern that those mechanisms and initiatives should not constitute non-tariff barriers to international trade.

102. Regional centres under the three chemical conventions can play an important role in capacity-building and technology transfer. Regional partnerships have delivered practical cooperation and assisted the implementation of chemical management regimes. Civil society and other stakeholders make important contributions to sound chemicals management. The Africa Stockpiles Programme was mentioned as a successful partnership to address the sound management of pesticides.

Way forward

103. Emphasis was placed on full and effective implementation of existing global agreements, including SAICM. It was pointed out that SAICM could have more flexible rules.

104. Many delegations stressed that the outcomes of the Commission needed to be transmitted to other forums dealing with chemicals.

105. Some delegations asked for an adequate flow of additional and predictable resources and technology transfer under the aegis of the Rio principles, especially, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

106. Proposals were advanced for new financing arrangements including, for example, a multilateral fund such as the one of the Montreal Protocol, as well as evolving the SAICM Quick Start Programme into a sustainable funding arrangement. Reference was made to the GEF Persistent Organic Pollutants focal area, with a suggestion that chemicals more broadly could be a focal area. Calls were made for the participation of the private sector and other stakeholders such as civil society, academia and scientific societies, in sound chemicals management. Delegations also highlighted the importance of internalization of costs through, for example, economic instruments.

107. A number of delegations indicated the importance of enhancing technology transfer, including through considering the relaxation of intellectual property rights in some innovations, while other delegations emphasized the need to strengthen intellectual property rights.

108. Some delegations also called for establishing a system to prevent the transfer of obsolete technologies to developing countries and to promote the cooperative development of environmentally sound technologies.

109. Delegations noted the need to manage chemicals within the entire life cycle. They called for speeding up the process of addressing the problem of obsolete pesticides that threaten the health of millions of people and the environment, which is a result of unsound management of chemicals and overconsumption of pesticides. It was highlighted that integrated pest management can reduce the application of chemicals in agriculture.

110. Practical measures at the international level could include the establishment of an international mechanism to support education and capacity-building in the implementation of the three chemical conventions; increasing support to regional centres as a mechanism of implementation of the three chemical conventions; improving the dissemination and exchange of information on chemical safety matters, including the potentially hazardous chemicals in products; implementing the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and the ILO Convention on Safety in the Use of Chemicals at Work (Convention No. 170); negotiating a legally binding instrument on mercury; establishing partnerships for assessing and communicating risks and hazards; and addressing emerging issues such as nanomaterials and e-waste.

111. Many delegations referred to the need to sanction and control the illegal export of hazardous chemical waste to developing countries. More attention needs to be paid to the issue of disposal costs incurred by developing countries, especially through the entry into force and full implementation of the protocol of liability and compensation of the Basel Convention.

112. Many delegations stressed that the coordination of United Nations bodies and other international organizations related to chemicals should be further promoted. Further cooperation and coordination among the three chemical conventions should be encouraged, but some delegates noted that this would not be enough to bridge the implementation gap on its own. Many delegates also emphasized that this process should not result in reducing the autonomy of each of the conventions and should increase the financial support for each of the conventions.

113. It was emphasized that the health sector should play a more active role in the sound of chemicals management, for example, by availing of WHO offices to strengthen coordination at the national and regional levels.

114. At the national level, priority areas for action include strengthening national legislation, with international cooperation and training on enforcement and compliance; integrating chemicals management into national development priorities and budgets; establishing mechanisms for intersectoral cooperation in all countries; enhancing capacity for chemical risk assessment, including both human capacities and laboratory facilities; developing safer alternative products and technologies for replacing the most hazardous chemicals; expanding monitoring programmes, including through the establishment of pollutant release and transfer registers; and strengthening partnerships and corporate social responsibility in the chemicals sector.

115. Improving knowledge, training and awareness of all national stakeholders, including experts, legislators, politicians, policymakers, farmers, workers and public and national organizations, is a key to sustainable chemicals management. It is important to enhance the right to know and improve dissemination and exchange of information on chemical safety matters, including the potentially hazardous chemicals in products.

C. Waste management

116. Rapid economic growth, changing behavioural attitudes and lifestyles, unsustainable consumption patterns and rapid urbanization in many parts of the world have led to a significant increase in the consumption of raw materials and natural resources, and an increase in the volumes and variety of waste. Efficient waste management has become a critical issue in the fight against poverty and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals related to sanitation and public health, will remain elusive without a focus on effective waste management.

117. The absence of sound waste management poses risks to human health and well-being, endangers ecosystem resources, contributes to climate change, accelerates land degradation and can adversely impact economic activities. Given the proportionately high participation of youth and children, women, and indigenous people in the informal sector of waste management, the brunt of these negative impacts disproportionately falls upon these groups within society.

Obstacles, constraints and challenges

118. Developing countries in particular face uphill challenges in properly managing their waste, with efforts being made to reduce volumes and to generate sufficient funds for waste management. Major constraints are mainly the result of a lack of proper urban waste management planning; a lack of resources; insufficient infrastructure; the high cost of waste treatment; a lack of access to appropriate technologies; insufficient availability of data and information with respect to the current and projected amount of different types of waste generated; high transport and energy costs dealing with recyclable waste; and insufficient awareness of the importance of the issue of waste management.

119. In many countries, the management of hazardous waste represents a growing challenge but even more so for developing countries and countries with economies in transition that face limitations in finance, technology and know-how for effective management. This is all the more important as the safety issue remains crucial for both workers and the public.

120. Although international instruments dealing with the transboundary movement of wastes are in place, many delegations stated that the transboundary movement of hazardous waste, including e-waste, is still a major issue of concern.

121. The safe and environmentally sound management of radioactive wastes, including their minimization, transportation and disposal, is important. There is a need to promote research and development of methods for the safe and environmentally sound treatment of radioactive waste.

122. Some delegations mentioned the need to monitor the disposal of hazardous waste, particularly its final disposal, thereby strengthening the implementation of the Basel Convention.

Best practices and lessons learned

123. A number of best practices were mentioned regarding ways in which waste could be a valuable resource and a source of jobs, including for the poorest communities. For instance, transforming organic waste into compost and/or biogas could constitute a cost-effective and sustainable way of managing waste and producing soil nutrients, energy and fuel resources accessible to low-income households. This is particularly relevant in both developed and developing countries and can be encouraged by banning the disposal of waste containing a significant amount of biodegradable material. Sugarcane waste has proved particularly useful for the cogeneration of electricity in some developing countries.

124. Defining a long-term waste management strategy for the coming decades is critical to fostering sustainable waste management. Some countries have defined quantitative objectives for waste generation per household, recycling rates for materials and residues, and quantity of incinerated and landfilled wastes. Waste that cannot be prevented should also be separated and used to the greatest extent possible through preparation for reuse and recycling.

125. The implementation of franchise and take-back systems to involve the private sector in waste collection could be encouraged. To enhance national efforts to manage waste effectively, some countries are developing programmes and legislation on extended producer responsibility that encourages recycling and discourages the production of goods that are difficult to recycle. These types of initiatives have proven their relevance in such areas as packaging, used tires, electronics, cars, batteries and paint. Economic instruments and incentive systems have in many cases helped to reduce waste generation and bring up recycling rates.

126. Online waste management systems can enable input comparison, analysis, registration and management of information on waste throughout the whole product life cycle.

127. In some countries, the collection of pesticide containers has become a national priority, with some countries achieving very high rates. National laws on the disposal of empty pesticide containers have been modified to distribute

responsibilities to all parts of the production and consumption chains, heavily relying on the participation of farmers.

128. Waste reduction, recycling and waste-to-energy conversion have been stimulated in some cases by taxing landfill users, thereby generating revenues for recycling and recovery projects.

Way forward

129. A zero-waste economy, recognizing waste as a resource and waste prevention and minimization were mentioned as valuable concepts to guide action on waste. Experience has shown that waste management needs to be addressed through integrated approaches. Reducing waste production, recycling waste and reusing materials should form the basis for sustainable waste management. Further implementation of extended producer responsibility could help in that regard.

130. There is a need for new and additional financial resources, including through the development and implementation of innovative financial instruments, dedicated to sustainable waste management in developing countries.

131. Many delegates called for wider ratification and implementation of relevant instruments and protocols relating to the transport of hazardous waste, especially the Basel Convention Ban Amendment and the Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation. They also called for more effective enforcement of the Bamako Convention and of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions. In that regard, there is a need to assist developing countries in the full implementation of such instruments, and to enhance collaboration with the governing structures of relevant intergovernmental processes and instruments.

132. Targeted enforcement actions are also needed, in particular to improve detection of illegal shipment of waste both at the national and international levels, as exemplified by the network actions of the European Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law-Transfrontier Shipment of Waste and the World Customs Organization Operation Demeter.

133. At the national level, statutory instruments may need to be extended to include criminal provisions for the violation of hazardous waste regulations. Investment for domestic hazardous waste disposal is urgently needed in many countries. In addition, many countries emphasized the need to give special attention to the sound management of mercury, cyanide, pesticides and other hazardous wastes.

134. Emerging new waste streams such as electronic waste, plastics in the marine environment, oil and lubricants require special international and national action aiming at a high rate of recovery worldwide. These streams need to be addressed through appropriate programmes and environmentally sound technologies to promote material and energy recovery.

135. There is a need to build local capacity in the developing countries to address the flow of e-wastes. In particular, the shipment of e-waste to developing countries as second-hand and near-end-of-life goods needs to be urgently addressed. Many delegations proposed that electronic companies take full responsibility for the safe recycling of their products.

136. Emphasis should also be put on safe and environmentally sound ship recycling as in the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009.

137. The development of policy instruments encouraging the prevention and minimization of waste based on the polluter-pays principle or extended producer responsibility should be fostered. Such instruments should include provisions for local community participation.

138. Access to financial and technological resources is essential for advancing sustainable waste management: investments are needed in low-cost options for waste management, recycling and reuse and disposal, as well as energy recovery from waste, notably options suitable for poor communities that can be replicated on a larger scale.

139. For this purpose, a global platform on waste management could be developed with a view to disseminating and exchanging information, upscale good practices and advance partnerships.

140. Regional initiatives promoting 3Rs, such as the 3R Forum in Asia, should be enhanced. This would expand the capacities of countries within a region through information and knowledge exchange to promote waste minimization, address local waste management challenges and minimize transboundary movement of waste.

141. Education — formal, non-formal and informal — and public awareness campaigns are vital for changing behavioural attitudes and promoting waste minimization and safe, environmentally sound disposal, and should therefore be enhanced. Partnerships and dialogues between major stakeholders within society, such as youth and children, women and indigenous people, are crucial in influencing and changing such behavioural attitudes.

142. International cooperation to promote capacity-building is also required for all relevant stakeholders, including for local policymakers as well as to promote advanced scientific research. There is also a need for improved data at the international level on different types of waste.

143. Improvement in agricultural waste management requires reinforced support to farmers, particularly in developing countries, and access to knowledge on best practices in sustainable agriculture, including successful experiences in the collection of pesticide containers, addressing food waste and minimizing post-harvest losses are important for food security.

D. Mining

144. Mining industries are very important to many countries, in particular developing countries. Mining, minerals and metals are important for their economic and social development. Minerals are essential for modern life. It is paramount that developing countries assert the implementation of their sovereign rights over national resources by strengthening institutional and legal frameworks to prevent the environmental and social impacts derived from mining.

145. When managed properly, mining offers the opportunity to catalyse broad-based development and even reduce poverty. Since the World Summit on Sustainable Development, voluntary approaches such as the International Council on Mining

and Metals and the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development have been developed. However, in many cases, the environmental, cultural and social impacts of mining are still inadequately addressed. A holistic approach was called for and could be further addressed in the Commission on Sustainable Development at its nineteenth session. Some delegations expressed the need for the United Nations to support a principled approach to mining, while others emphasized the need to continue developing a comprehensive policy framework.

146. Good governance at all levels, including the rule of law as well as ethical, accountable, and transparent behaviour by governments and companies while respecting national sovereignty, is a necessary condition for mining to contribute to sustainable development. Enhancing the participation of stakeholders, including local and indigenous communities and women, in order for them to play an active role in mining development, is critical.

147. The challenge is to promote integrated mining activities that support local communities and economies, while preserving social development and protecting the environment and cultures, in keeping with the principles of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. There is a need to root the mining sector in the long-term development imperatives of national economies and to create linkages with these economies to reinforce the sector's contribution to sustainable development. There is also a need to ensure a fair distribution of benefits from mining activities among citizens. Mining activities should provide benefits to and respect the cultures of local communities and indigenous peoples.

Obstacles, constraints and challenges

148. In many countries, substantial mineral reserves remain underexplored or underexploited. Reasons for this include a lack of data and information, a lack of investment in the sector (national and foreign direct investment), and a lack of infrastructure needed for the development of major projects.

149. Development projects must have the free prior consent and approval of the local community and respect national sovereignty.

150. Some countries lacking the financial and technological capacity for mineral extraction may agree to skewed mineral development contracts. Dialogue with multinational companies can be difficult. There are cases of unethical business practices, a lack of transparency and accountability, and the lack of respect for the rights and cultures of local and indigenous communities, resulting sometimes in social tensions and confrontations as well as political instability.

151. The achievement of sustainable development through mining activities is inhibited by weak legal and regulatory frameworks for environmental protection in mining activities and the lack of good governance and enforcement capacities in government institutions.

152. Many mining operations leave heavy environmental liabilities, a large ecological footprint and a negative human legacy. Land degradation from mining limits the use of that land for agriculture or other traditional commodities. A number of mining operations are located near highly vulnerable biodiversity hotspots. The long-term health impacts on workers and nearby communities are often inadequately compensated.

153. In some cases, legacy costs of abandoned mines and other health and environmental liabilities and costs of mining are shifted to host governments. Gains to governments from mining are not always enough to cover the costs of rehabilitation. Responsibility begins when mines open and continues beyond mine closure. Environmental liability for site remediation and clean-up need to be clearly defined.

Best practices and lessons learned

154. In order to promote investment in this sector, good governance at all levels and stable public policies are needed. The regulatory and monitoring role of the government and the international community is critical. This must be accompanied by good practices of mining companies such as corporate social responsibility and sustainability reports.

155. Since the World Summit on Sustainable Development, a number of good practices have been developed and shared, including on good governance and sustainable mining principles; mine safety and health, including in small-scale mining; management of tailings and waste rocks; rehabilitation of abandoned and orphaned mines; cooperation programmes to promote continuous learning targeting the executives of the mining industry and Governments.

156. Mention was made of a number of frameworks aimed at improving the transparency and sustainability of mining activities, such as the Kimberley Process and Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative; the corporate social responsibility strategy for the Canadian mining sector operating abroad; national mining codes; investment of a share of revenues in dedicated funds such as rehabilitation funds for mining sites and revenue redistribution funds; the European Union biodiversity action plan; Natura 2000, whose approach is to respect areas that should not be mined owing to their high biodiversity, so-called no go areas.

157. Some sustainable development partnerships were mentioned. Examples include Methane to Markets, the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, and the International Cyanide Management Code.

Way forward

158. The transfer of environmentally sound mining technologies and know-how is a high priority for many countries, including for the rehabilitation of abandoned and orphaned sites. Technical and financial support to enable artisanal and small-scale miners to upgrade technology and minimize the health and environmental risks posed by their operations is also important. The Communities and Small-Scale Mining Network provides one model of support.

159. Technical capacities of national institutions dealing with mining could be strengthened, notably in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Actions include investing more in research and scientific capacity and upgrading technical education and training. Technical and managerial training for the mining sector needs to include sustainable development content.

160. Countries seeking to develop their mining sectors need increased investment flows, including foreign direct investment. Policies providing a predictable investment environment are important, as well as strong national capacities to negotiate effectively with prospective investors. Mining should decrease its

ecological footprint as well as take its full responsibility for mining costs and liabilities for closure.

161. Mining companies, including multinational companies, need to respect human rights and human rights instruments such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the ILO Convention concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (No. 169), and respect and adapt to local and indigenous cultures, protect biodiversity and ensure the sharing of benefits with the local communities, including through investment and rehabilitation. Respecting free prior informed consent and obtaining legal permission are very important. In that regard, corporate social, economic and environmental responsibilities in relation to mining extraction activities should be more effectively coordinated to ensure the positive contribution for sustainable development.

162. A number of actions to advance the sustainable development and management of mining would benefit from international cooperation, including a United Nations framework within the present decade. These can be grouped in measures to: strengthen governance, transparency and public accountability; build technical and managerial capacities; develop new mining technology; promote investment and technology transfer; and ensure rehabilitation and benefit-sharing.

163. Governance, transparency and accountability can be strengthened by: creating strong, clear and consistent regulatory frameworks, with laws in place to protect the environment, indigenous peoples' rights and cultures and ecosystems, and trained government officials who can implement these regulations; supporting voluntary international transparency and accountability initiatives such as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative as well as national and local level initiatives; building governance capacity, especially at the local level, but also all other levels; and providing information access mechanisms for communities and other stakeholders on mining activities, their impacts and the use of mining revenues.

164. Reference has been made to the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development as a global policy forum on sustainable development, which enables its members to learn of the most recent best practices and lessons learned from any part of the world on the whole range of mining-related issues — economic, social and environmental.

165. Capacity-building to enhance developing countries' management of mineral revenues, including at the level of local authorities and communities, would help ensure that those revenues serve a positive role for development. There is a need for strengthening the capacities of local and national governments for the safe management and disposal of waste accumulation, in particular from the mining sector. Capacity-building can be furthered through the regional and interregional exchange of experiences; the identification and dissemination of best practices and the creation of an appropriate knowledge base on mineral resources and mining for strategic planning and policy innovation, as well as on managing the environmental and social impacts of mining.

166. There is also a need for good planning that takes into account the needs of the local community and indigenous peoples while the mine is in operation and following closure. This may include skills development, alternative uses for the mine infrastructure and the creation of new businesses and services to support mine development and downstream activities.

167. Many delegates highlighted the need for partnerships between all levels of government, industry, communities and community organizations and aid agencies to promote coordinated and integrated approaches to optimize the generation and equitable distribution of benefits from mining.

168. More work and guidance is needed in such specific areas as: the designation of areas of high ecological or cultural value as no-go areas to mining; the rehabilitation of abandoned and orphaned mines and the proper management of waste stockpiles; the development of effective and efficient approaches to the funding of mine closure; enhancing environmental impact assessments and social impact assessments; improving the health and safety of mine workers, respecting the ILO Convention concerning Safety and Health in Mines (No. 176), including in the artisanal mining sector; and protecting the rights of women, especially women workers; and eliminating child labour.

169. Governments should consider reduce-reuse policies, increasing the recycling of critically important metals, and research and development of safe substitutes for metals in production. A large share of some metals is already stored in existing infrastructure and products, and inventories and material preparation plans could facilitate their recovery.

170. Sustainable mining principles are being addressed at the regional level in the Africa Mining Vision 2050, whose realization would benefit from international support.

171. A global initiative for sustainable mining was proposed for consideration, encompassing such areas as facilitating policy dialogue, defining product standards, promoting responsible behaviour and transparency, and encouraging greater resource efficiency and recycling.

E. 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns

172. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation refers to poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base as overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development.

173. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation goes on to ask all countries to encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives to promote sustainable production and consumption patterns with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio Principles, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. Governments, relevant international organizations, the private sector and all major groups should play an active role in changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns. This would include actions at all levels.

174. Fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development.

175. A number of regional and national frameworks of programmes and action plans on sustainable consumption and production have been developed. These include actions at all levels, in such areas as material, water and energy efficiency,

waste minimization and promotion of decent and green jobs. Since the World Summit on Sustainable Development, some developing countries have reaped benefits from implementing measures that promote sustainable consumption and production. They have made significant economic and social gains, while achieving important progress in the area of environmental sustainability.

176. Concerted actions at all levels from the international to the local will be needed, engaging all members of society and bringing together all countries in mutual interdependence to move towards sustainable consumption and production patterns, with due regard for equity and the sharing of limited resources.

177. The 10-year framework of programmes, mandated by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, could and should support these initiatives, giving them impetus, incentives, direction and cohesion, for the period 2011-2020.

Obstacles, constraints and challenges

178. While unsustainable consumption patterns are severely stressing the Earth's resources, large segments of the population still lack access to basic needs. This combination of overconsumption and underconsumption has resulted in enormous disparities.

179. Countries have already implemented a diversity of actions and strategies in an effort to delink their economic growth from resource use and environmental degradation. However, many developing countries lack the necessary resources and capabilities to shift to sustainable consumption and production.

180. Actions are often fragmented, resulting in lack of coherence in policy instruments targeting the same sectors or areas and missing the opportunity to realize synergies. Governments also have tended to rely on voluntary actions when stronger actions may be required. Some governmental policies, such as subsidized energy and water as well as the underpricing of resources, can limit incentive for eco-efficiency and cleaner production activities. Finally, because significant impacts arise along supply chains through globalized production systems, national actions need to be supplemented by global solutions.

181. The lack of integration across the whole life cycle of production and supply chains is one of the factors preventing the absolute decoupling of economic growth from environmental impacts. Another factor is the required shift in behaviours and lifestyles by all actors to supplement technological solutions on the production side.

182. Product affordability is also a limiting factor, even though the expansion of markets for sustainable products is helping to lower costs. Producers in developing countries, in particular small and medium-size enterprises, need technical support to meet the increasing requirements to access international supply chains and access to markets more generally. There are concerns over the possible inappropriate use of sustainable consumption and production-related policies, which should not become trade-restrictive measures.

Best practices and lessons learned

183. At the international level, the Marrakech Process has led to significant initiatives and raised awareness of sustainable consumption and production in all regions, aided by the important contributions of the seven Marrakech task forces.

184. Regional institutions such as the regional round tables on sustainable consumption and production and the Marrakech Process Task Force on Cooperation with Africa have contributed to knowledge-generation and the dissemination of best practices. Regional processes have been set in motion, including the Africa 10-Year Framework Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production and the European Union Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plan, among others.

185. Many countries have developed national sustainable consumption and production strategies or have incorporated sustainable consumption and production into national sustainable development plans that include initiatives to improve water and energy efficiency, promote cleaner production and pollution prevention, and expand public transport and other low-carbon initiatives.

186. A number of countries reported the successful implementation of regulatory instruments to foster sustainable consumption and production, including standards for energy-using products; energy performance standards; material, carbon and energy targets; and sustainable public procurement. Some countries raised concerns that those procurement policies might disadvantage small-scale producers, especially in developing countries.

187. Other approaches and tools to promote sustainable consumption and production include: information disclosure, including eco-labelling; market incentives such as eco-taxes and deposit-refund schemes; financial incentives for cleaner production practices and investments in clean technology; investments in green infrastructure and buildings; partnerships to green supply chains; promotion of corporate social responsibility; leadership awards; technical assistance; and collaborative problem solving. Open source tools are becoming available for use to increase transparency along supply chains, as a means of informing both management decisions and consumer choices. Good practices can be found in many areas, including resource efficiency measures such as 3Rs, responsible marketing, and product redesign/eco-design. Bonus-malus (discount-premium) incentive systems have proven successful to improve car fuel efficiency. New curricula and education guidelines and toolkits for formal, non-formal and informal education for sustainable consumption have been developed to shape the thinking of youth beginning in the early grades.

188. Successful programmes and initiatives include: National Cleaner Production Centres and Programmes and pollution prevention programmes; sustainable manufacturing initiatives; start-up financing for green ventures; green management mentoring centres; climate leadership programmes; renewable energy and energy efficiency strategies; material efficiency centres and strategies; integrated water resources management; the European Union SWITCH Asia Programme promoting sustainable consumption and production, including in small- and medium-scale enterprises, and thereby contributing to poverty reduction; and a Green Israel programme that builds on successful experience in changing habits to address water and energy scarcity.

189. The need to scale up good practices on sustainable consumption and production, including the development of sustainable goods and services, is opening up important new business opportunities, creating green jobs and green markets.

190. Regional and local authorities can be and often are policy pioneers in the area of sustainable consumption and production, acting first and faster than national

Governments. Hence, for example, five municipalities in Finland have decided to take the path to reach zero carbon by 2025. Also, sustainable consumption and production has been piloted in some local Agenda 21 programmes.

Way forward

191. Broad support was voiced for the development of a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production. Several delegations indicated that a 10-year framework of programmes should support existing regional and national initiatives, building on the work begun, inter alia, under the Marrakech Process, and address global sustainable consumption and production issues. It could have a common vision for all countries, ambitious objectives, goals, time frame, metrics, and adequate means of implementation substantially to scale up best practices and provide incentives to do more on sustainable consumption and production not only for Governments but also for stakeholders at all levels.

192. The 10-year framework of programmes would also address cross-cutting issues, such as adequate financial support, capacity-building, technology transfer, gender equality, health and education.

193. Such a 10-year framework of programmes should contribute to promote synergies with trade strategies towards a fair and equitable multilateral trade system.

194. Many delegations noted that a discussion on the format and substance of a 10-year framework was needed so that it could take shape over the coming year for consideration at the nineteenth session of the Commission.

195. Sustainable consumption and production can be seen as one tool to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, including through green jobs initiatives, which link decent jobs with the Goals, the environment and the low-carbon economy. Still, stronger linkages are needed between the Millennium Development Goals and the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production to establish more clearly how sustainable consumption and production will help to eradicate poverty. One aspect is the contribution that sustainable agricultural practices and agri-food systems can make to improving food security and eradicating hunger. Sustainable production should take into account human factors such as labour and work conditions as well as the contributions which workers and trade unions can make in improving the efficiency and sustainability of production processes, so that it can be a triple-win solution.

196. Several speakers suggested that a life cycle approach could be helpful in organizing initiatives under a 10-year framework of programmes — including better product design, cleaner production processes, better products and more sustainable consumption and lifestyles, followed by resource recovery — a cradle-to-cradle approach. Other speakers also highlighted that life cycle approaches should be implemented in the context of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, bearing in mind the costs and the potential for being used as trade barriers.

197. A 10-year framework of programmes could provide a platform for wide sharing of lessons learned and best practices at multiple levels — from national strategies and policies on sustainable consumption and production to local initiatives, involving all actors across all relevant sectors. For instance, knowledge-sharing could be valuable on effective packages of policies and measures (voluntary, market-based and regulatory) and how they can be adapted to different national and local contexts.

198. A 10-year framework of programmes could strengthen cooperation among countries, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and foster partnerships, including public-private and multi-stakeholder partnerships. Collaboration with development agencies, the Marrakech task forces, sustainable consumption and production round tables, sustainable consumption and production research centres of excellence, National Cleaner Production Centres, existing and new partnerships, and the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management should be built in.

199. Programmes could be organized around sectors. In some cases, they would build on work of the Marrakech Process, such as in sustainable tourism, buildings and construction and education. In other cases, new sustainable consumption and production programmes could be envisaged: possibly for sustainable agriculture, sustainable management of chemicals and waste, and sustainable transport.

200. Capacity-building could help to develop a critical mass of professionals able to implement sustainable consumption and production activities. This could include targeted business-oriented educational programmes on sustainable consumption and production. A programme of capacity-building, financial and technical support to small- and medium-scale enterprises in developing countries and countries with economies in transition could be considered. Inter alia, this could help to scale up innovative financing such as green credit lines and loan guarantees for investment in clean technologies. Involvement of the international financial institutions could help in this regard.

201. Support to the engagement of civil society should also be integrated into a 10-year framework of programmes. Empowering and providing incentives for women, youth, indigenous peoples, farmers, NGOs and other major groups to scale up their sustainable consumption and production activities and awareness-raising will be an essential complement to business and governmental actions. This is especially important for effecting the needed changes in lifestyles and consumption behaviour.

202. The Marrakech Process remains a substantive forum for dialogue and cooperation on sustainable consumption and production issues, one which has demonstrated its potential to promote progress on sustainable consumption and production worldwide. It could represent one effective tool to support implementation of a 10-year framework of programmes. The Marrakech Process has provided valuable policies, mechanisms and capacity-building activities, which could contribute major elements for a 10-year framework of programmes.

203. The 10-year framework of programmes could be an important input to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

F. Interlinkages, cross-cutting issues and means of implementation

204. The thematic cluster under review has a number of cross-cutting issues and interlinkages and needs to be discussed in a broader context of sustainable development.

205. There is a need to raise the priority of these sectors, ensure additional and predictable resourcing, invest in the collection and maintenance of quality data, build technical and institutional capacities in developing countries and support the transfer and diffusion of technologies. A more strategic approach to these means of

implementation in all five thematic issues was underlined. Innovative sources of funding and the stronger involvement of the private sector were highlighted.

206. Good governance at all levels is a prerequisite for sustainable development, including transparent government structures, effective public management and anticorruption measures.

207. To build resilience to the multiple crises, developing countries need a strong United Nations that enhances their national efforts to achieve sustainable development. To that end, the results of the Commission on Sustainable Development meetings need to be linked to the outcomes of relevant forthcoming international meetings.

208. The themes under review relate to the Millennium Development Goals. Thus, the sound management of chemicals and waste management can contribute to environmental sustainability (Goal 7). The sound use of chemicals can reduce child mortality (Goal 4) and the development of transport infrastructure can help to reduce maternal mortality and improve maternal health (Goal 5) and support universal primary education (Goal 2) and the full participation of women in all these processes will help to achieve gender equality (Goal 3). Decent work is a key element for all the Millennium Development Goals.

209. The current unsustainable use of natural resources on a global scale is endangering not only the state of the environment, essential ecosystem services and biodiversity, but also human health and the well-being of present and future generations. It is, therefore, necessary to change consumption and production patterns in order to address the challenges of poverty eradication, long-term food security, climate change and biodiversity loss. The valuation of biodiversity and the services provided by ecosystems are essential to support policy decisions that prevent their further degradation.

210. It is necessary to clarify the role of the green economy in poverty eradication. It was stated that a green economy will require partnerships and international cooperation to advance technology, sound investments and capacity-building activities.

211. A number of delegates underlined the need for better coordination and cooperation among the international environmental institutions and associated initiatives and agreements.

212. Capacity-building is essential to strengthening stakeholders' capacities to implement the decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development, including the capacity to identify and mobilize existing and new resources.

213. Education, at all levels, both formal, non-formal and informal, awareness-raising and information-sharing can support changes in consumer behaviour and thus function as a means towards more sustainable communities. Education for sustainable development is an investment in the future and that process needs to be supported and linked to other processes. The stronger involvement of research and science with evidence-based policy approaches is critical.

214. It is imperative to develop accountability frameworks that correspond to realities in different countries and take into account the concerns of local communities and indigenous peoples.

215. Greater corporate social and environmental responsibility is also important for developing accountability frameworks. In that context, a number of initiatives were mentioned, including the United Nations Global Compact, the International Finance Corporation Performance Standards, the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and the Global Reporting Initiative.

216. The importance of traditional knowledge and the contribution of indigenous communities' know-how and experience were highlighted, together with the need to facilitate the transfer of technologies. Intellectual property rights of indigenous peoples, farmers and local communities need to be respected.

217. A life cycle perspective should be employed. However, green initiatives need to be rooted in the context of sustainable development and be sensitive to concerns of poverty eradication. Delinking growth from environmental degradation needs also to take into account the social pillar of development.

218. Gender equality has been a prominent cross-cutting issue for the current cycle of the Commission, and inequality has proven to constitute a constraint to growth and poverty reduction. Bringing the principle of gender equality into all aspects of social sustainability policy will enable all groups in society to participate and share in economic and social development. Thus, empowering women should be given priority attention by Governments, so that they are able to contribute as active and innovative agents of change in society.

Part two

VI. Small Island Developing States Day

219. The first half of the Small Island Developing States Day served as the preparatory committee for the high-level meeting of the Five-Year Review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

220. There is unanimous recognition by the international community that the economic, environmental and social vulnerabilities of small island developing States have increased, which threatens their progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, and of the need for commensurate action. Migration causes a steady loss of scarce human resources, which could be further aggravated by climate change. While major efforts were made by small island developing States to build resilience, an implementation gap persists, which needs to be addressed through resources, capacity-building, access to financing and technology.

221. The urgency of addressing the security and human dimensions of climate change and of a legally binding outcome of UNFCCC was underlined at Cancun. Some countries highlighted the need to recognize small island developing States as a special category, and to review the United Nations graduation criteria for least developed countries as well as the criteria for accessing concessionary financing from the international financial institutions.

222. Special perspectives of small island developing States were then given in relation to themes of the 18th session of the Commission.

223. Marine transport and aviation are of vital importance for small island developing States. Large distances, low volumes and low frequencies have led to some of the highest transport and logistics costs in the world. In addition to these structural disadvantages, sea-level rise threatens transport infrastructure in small island developing States. Delegations emphasized the need to consider the trade-off between putting a price on carbon dioxide from international transport and the potential impacts on key sectors such as tourism. Despite many efforts to promote sustainable and green transport, small island developing States continue to face transport challenges, notably in inter-island shipping and seaplane operations.

224. Current waste management practices have resulted in the degradation of coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangroves and coastal zones, which threatens fisheries and tourism. Such trends have also been exacerbated by climate change. Areas of special concern to small island developing States include the transboundary movement of toxic chemicals and hazardous waste, e-waste and the global movement of plastics in the oceans. Innovative financing is needed for the development, transfer and implementation of cost-effective and environmentally sound waste management technologies and to develop projects for the use of waste as a resource.

225. Mining is a critical sector in a few small island developing States, especially traditional and artisanal mining. Small island developing States are highly vulnerable to the negative impacts of mining, particularly with regard to biodiversity loss, environmental degradation, soil erosion, pollution, displacement of communities and the adverse effects of mercury on health. Small island developing States require financial and technical assistance to improve their national capacities for sustainable mining policy and legislation formulation, negotiations with transnational corporations and thorough environmental impact assessments of mineral sector projects. The enhanced participation of all stakeholders, in particular local and indigenous communities and women, in decision-making is necessary and an integrated approach to mining for small island developing States is needed.

226. In the views of small island developing States, the dangerous impacts of climate change already occurring in those States are in part a direct result of the current global patterns of consumption and production. Frameworks for Sustainable Consumption and Production need to be put in place to ensure cleaner production and resource efficiency, and to assist small island developing States in exploiting existing or potential comparative advantages in trade, as stated in the Barbados Programme of Action. The green economy and green growth approaches hold promise potential to reduce the vulnerabilities and build the resilience of small island developing States and achieve a transition to sustainable development. Investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy is needed, including through public-private partnerships.

VII. Multi-stakeholder dialogues

227. Multi-stakeholder dialogues on partnerships and on the implementation of the decisions of the Commission were convened for the first time as an official part of the session. These were introduced as an innovation reflecting the increased emphasis being placed by the Commission on strengthening mechanisms that promote tangible results towards sustainable development.

A. Partnerships for sustainable development — Commission on Sustainable Development thematic cluster for 2010-2011

Strengthening partnerships

228. Partnerships were widely recognized as a useful tool for enhancing the implementation of sustainable development goals by tapping into the resources, capabilities and competencies of non-traditional partners. Delegates called for multi-stakeholder partnerships in particular to play an increasingly important role in helping to meet the needs of developing countries for funding, research capacity, service delivery and technological innovation.

229. The popularity of public-private partnerships within the context of the increasing importance of global partnerships was acknowledged. There was a call for continued support for the development of local multi-stakeholder partnerships.

230. Among the areas identified for attention were: the need for greater recognition of the contribution of women and youth in partnerships; the increased engagement of indigenous peoples; and expanding multi-stakeholder partnerships that benefit the poor. A strong institutional framework, and increased resources and capacity development to support and strengthen the involvement of these groups was called for.

Enhancing partnership work within the Commission on Sustainable Development

231. Given the importance of partnerships in advancing implementation, the further mainstreaming of the partnerships programme into the work of the Commission was encouraged.

232. The United Nations should provide an expanded and strengthened institutional framework for more effective development and oversight of the partnerships programme of the Commission. More attention should be given to the launch of new partnerships in the relevant thematic areas being considered by the Commission, and closer monitoring of existing ones, with a view to establishing a closer linkage between the policy formulation and implementation processes.

233. An intersessional programme, including national and regional meetings focusing on lessons learned and best practices emerging from partnerships, was suggested. In that context, more rigorous reporting requirements for partnerships were called for.

234. Consideration should also be given to linking the spirit of the voluntary partnership inherent in the Marrakech Process to the more formal partnership process for which the Commission has oversight. That could imply formalization within the Commission of some of the work initiated under the Marrakech Process.

B. Advancing the implementation of the decisions of the Commission

Areas of concern

235. Overall, the Commission on Sustainable Development process and the implementation of the decisions of the Commission have lost some dynamism since

the Johannesburg Summit. To be relevant, those decisions must be concrete and translatable into action at the national and local levels.

236. In the absence of a tracking mechanism to monitor and evaluate implementation, it is difficult to ascertain the scope and impact of activities taking place at the local, national and global levels.

237. Some speakers considered that the programme of work of the Commission should be more flexible so that it can address timely issues, such as the 2010 biodiversity targets or the Millennium Development Goals review.

238. Some questioned if genuine commitments and responses can only occur during times of crisis like the recent food, energy and financial crises.

239. Coordination and coherence of sustainable development within the United Nations system has not been pursued vigorously enough, which has negatively impacted the mainstreaming of sustainable development programmes among United Nations system agencies. There is also only weak interaction between the Commission and the three Rio conventions.

Suggestions for action

240. Stronger interaction and coordination is needed between the Commission on Sustainable Development process and United Nations operational entities to ensure effective cross-fertilization between the decisions of the Commission, decisions of the conferences of the parties to the three Rio conventions, and the work programmes of United Nations system agencies. At the national level, this integration of sustainable development agendas would need to be incorporated into United Nations development assistance frameworks. The re-establishment of a United Nations inter-agency committee on sustainable development might foster such a change.

241. Some speakers, including a panellist, recommended giving sustainable development a higher political platform. Suggestions included: (a) transforming the Commission into a Council to replace the Trusteeship Council; and (b) making the Commission an organ of the General Assembly like the Human Rights Council. Others questioned whether this would exceed the mandate of the Commission. There was also a suggestion to consider establishing a high-level group or task force to help guide the Commission in future.

242. Delegates considered how to strengthen the means of implementation that have in many ways failed to yield the results hoped for at Rio and Johannesburg. Many speakers highlighted the importance of securing adequate financial resources for sustainable development. A number of delegations felt that the agenda of the Commission must change to become more relevant to finance ministers and development ministers so that the decisions of the Commission are mainstreamed in national development plans and adequately funded. The need to exploit better the opportunities for South-South cooperation was mentioned, as was the potential of partnerships to leverage new resources.

243. Stakeholders also recommended ways to ramp up the implementation of the decisions of the Commission by launching awareness-raising campaigns, grass-roots mobilization of young people, promoting best practices, and fostering knowledge-sharing among policymakers. The decisions of the Commission must take into

account the groundswell of innovation at the local, national and regional levels. A mobilized civil society can play an effective role in the design and implementation of sustainable development efforts, creating ownership at the community level.

244. Much can be done to improve implementation through decision support tools and accountability measures, including monitoring and evaluation to assess accurately the scope and impacts of implementation efforts, making use as appropriate of peer reviews. Some suggested the need to develop new and more appropriate sustainable development indicators.

VIII. High-level segment

A. Opening session

245. The high-level segment of the eighteenth session of the Commission was held from 12 to 14 May 2010. The Chair of the Commission, Luis Alberto Ferraté Felice, chaired the segment.

246. In his opening remarks, the Chair stressed that to harmonize economy, society and environment, it was necessary to build more just, inclusive, equitable and lasting development models, based on environmental justice, bioethics and a cross-generational vision. He highlighted the importance of means of implementation and expressed his view that the Commission, at its eighteenth and nineteenth sessions, could strengthen conventions and enhance existing good practices related to transport, the integrated management of chemicals and waste.

247. Asha-Rose Migiro, the Deputy Secretary-General, in her opening remarks, emphasized that the themes of the session were connected, as were all issues within the realm of sustainable development. Those themes were linked to our response to climate change, to our goal of reducing extreme poverty, to our commitments to human rights, and to our hope to leave a healthy planet for our children and grandchildren to enjoy. She stressed the need to ensure a quick shift in harmful consumption and production patterns that would remain or return within the carrying capacities of ecosystems while ensuring the upward convergence in standards of living across the planet as well as political and economic stability.

248. Leslie K. Christian, Vice-President of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, delivered a statement on behalf of the President of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, Ali Abdussalam Treki, in which he emphasized that Africa needed to sustain the high economic growth of the past decade in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Hamidon Ali, President of the Economic and Social Council, emphasized the relevance of the current themes to the Council's Development Cooperation Forum on Millennium Development Goals in time of crisis and the annual ministerial review on women's empowerment. Gerda Verburg, Minister of Agriculture and Food Quality of the Netherlands and Chair of the Commission at its seventeenth session, stressed that agriculture was key to sustainable development, including to solutions for climate change. Ernst Ulrich von Weizsacker, Co-Chair of the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management, emphasized the need to decouple economic growth from resource use, beginning with developed countries. Ashok Koshla, President of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, stated that our focus on

immediate and dramatic crises risked pushing the larger, long-term and more profound impacts on well-being and the planet into the background. It was also stressed in the opening session that the Commission needed to strengthen its leadership role and provide a vision of how it was to achieve its commitments and, in that regard, Minister Verburg proposed the creation of a high-level task force to boost the implementation of the decisions of the Commission.

249. Ministers presented many good practices and successful experiences, initiatives and partnerships on the thematic cluster under consideration and stressed a number of broad themes to guide the Commission in its deliberations at its nineteenth session, notably the importance of a sense of urgency in the face of multiple crises and challenges; strong political will at the highest level; a participatory approach involving all stakeholders, including the full participation of women in decision-making; and strengthened global governance of sustainable development.

250. It was stressed that the use of resource-efficient technologies and policies could deliver not only environmental benefits but also important social and economic benefits.

251. Means of implementation are fundamental and make economic growth, improved welfare and the protection of natural goods and services viable and effective.

B. Interactive ministerial dialogue with the United Nations system and major groups

252. The ministerial dialogue session with representatives of major groups and the United Nations system provided a unique opportunity to envision improved collaboration and cooperation and find common ground in the areas of policy coherence, strengthened institutional and legal frameworks, and the application of scientific and technological innovations.

253. A number of new initiatives were presented to illustrate the way forward at the global, regional and national levels in all five thematic areas, as well as with implementing other decisions related to the work of the Commission.

254. In transportation, several initiatives aimed at diversifying mobility means and promoting public transport were highlighted. The Global Fuel Economy Initiative and the Share the Road Initiative were cited as examples of collaborative global efforts led jointly by UNEP and other partners. Collaboration among Governments, local authorities and business and industry has resulted in many successful initiatives at the national and local levels that could be replicated and scaled up. Actions to introduce a fleet of 8,000 mass transit vehicles running on compressed natural gas was only one of many national initiatives presented and, at the local level, New York City's PlaNYC has shifted 25 per cent of its taxi fleet to hybrid vehicles.

255. The Stockholm, Basel and Rotterdam Conventions discussed their example of cooperation and collaboration with recent agreements pertaining to chemicals and waste that address the joint financing of their activities and define enhanced synergies in their respective work programmes. The global chemical industry announced the launch of its Responsible Care Global Charter and Global Products

Strategy, and UNEP highlighted its recently launched Global Platform on Waste Management, which aims to provide technical and financial support to implement national and local action plans on solid waste management. Financial mechanisms funded by the industries that pollute were suggested as a solution to problems such as plastics in the ocean and e-waste. It was suggested by many delegations that the notion of extended producer responsibility should be applied to electronic companies and the recycling of e-waste.

256. A global initiative for sustainable mining that would involve relevant agencies of the United Nations system, key industries, public institutions and indigenous peoples was proposed, and the importance of human rights in relation to the mining industry was emphasized. Green jobs and decent work, including dialogue among Governments, trade unions and employers, were stressed in this as well as other areas.

257. Broad support was expressed for the draft 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production developed through the Marrakech Process. Some noted that continued discussions by all stakeholders were necessary to address concerns and further develop the draft 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production.

258. Some regional initiatives to promote sustainable consumption and production were highlighted, including the African 10-year framework programme on sustainable consumption and production and the 10-year economic strategy "Europe 2020". One delegation also proposed to look at SAICM as a model for a 10-year framework programme. Representatives of the United Nations system outlined how they work to include the decisions of the Commission in their work programmes, but cautioned that the decisions of the Commission must be relevant and understandable. Some noted a lack of coherence among related intergovernmental processes, bureaucratic hurdles in obtaining funding from GEF and the clean development mechanism, and weak budgets for ministers of environment. "E-extension" was highlighted as an example of technology — and knowledge-sharing for food security and improved agriculture, a topic of the previous cycle of the Commission. The delivering as one initiative was cited as a model of coordination within the United Nations system. Many agreed that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development will provide an opportunity to strengthen linkages and coordination among existing institutions.

C. Ministerial thematic round tables

259. The present section summarizes the main initiatives and actions at different levels proposed for consideration at the nineteenth session of the Commission by participants in the thematic round tables.

Meeting the challenge of transportation needs in the twenty-first century

260. The expansion of transport infrastructure and transport services in developing countries is crucial to eradicating poverty and achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

Moving forward

261. Public transport systems, including bus rapid transit, offer many benefits, including access to education, employment and health care, and will need to play a major role in meeting the growing demand for urban transport. In many congested urban areas and city centres there is an urgent need to increase public transport options, facilitate non-motorized transport (including bicycles) and discourage the use of private cars. Local planning and local authorities are paramount in this regard. Education and awareness-raising is crucial to elevating the profile of public transport and changing behavioural choices regarding transport.

262. Holistic and coherent approaches to transport policies are needed, including all modes of transport (which need to be effective, affordable, clean and sustainable), as is the integration of transport considerations in urban planning. Sound planning of roads and transport infrastructure is required to reduce impacts on biodiversity and land degradation. Public-private partnerships can contribute to such approaches.

263. Enhancing the modernization of transport technology and redefining the understanding of mobility, thinking in terms of mobility services and promoting climate-friendly mobility management can curb the projected growth in greenhouse gas emissions and support sustainable development.

264. The specific needs of women, youth, the elderly and the disabled, including safety and security, should be considered when designing transport systems.

265. A modal shift could be accelerated towards more economical, affordable and energy-efficient modes of transport, including greater use of inland waterways and rail.

266. The decoupling of transport services and energy use is important to mitigating climate change and improving efficiency. In the light of the recent volatility in international energy prices, the development of alternative fuels, produced in a sustainable way, including compressed natural gas, ethanol and biodiesel, can offer diversification of transport fuels as part of an array of options for sustainable transport. The need to develop cleaner fossil fuels was also mentioned.

267. National measures to reduce pollution from the transport sector also include improving emissions standards for fuel and motor vehicles, consumer information, regulations on the import of used vehicles and the modernization of taxi, truck, bus and other commercial fleets as well as promoting traditional means of transport.

268. Greater financial support and public and private investment from national and international sources are urgently needed to improve transport systems in both underdeveloped rural areas and congested urban centres, including by implementing the 2011-2020 Decade of Action for Road Safety.

269. Greater international cooperation can advance transport corridor projects with many mutual benefits, including access to ports by landlocked countries, as shown by projects along the Silk Road and in several parts of Africa and Latin America.

270. Further development, research and deployment of advanced transport technologies will be essential to achieving a sustainable low-carbon transport future. This includes the development of battery technology for electric vehicles as well as hybrid and flex-fuel cars. International collaborative research could be encouraged.

271. The development and transfer of technology, knowledge- and experience-sharing and capacity-building need to be enhanced to make transport systems in developing countries more sustainable, including by building upon existing examples of South-South cooperation in such areas as public transport and cleaner vehicle fuels.

Strategies for sustainable chemicals and waste management

Chemicals

272. The benefits of chemicals are well understood, including their implication for the Millennium Development Goals. With appropriate safeguards and oversight, it is possible to use chemicals in a cost-effective, resource-efficient and safe manner. However, chemicals are also a main contributor of toxic compounds and therefore a great deal remains to be done to ensure the environmentally sound use and management of chemicals over their life cycle within the principles of sustainable development and improved quality of life. The health and safety of workers, farmers and others handling chemicals need to be adequately safeguarded.

273. The chemicals industry is expected to continue to grow over the next 20 years, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and yet those countries have the least human and technical capacities to deal with such a challenge and related risks.

274. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation set out the 2020 goal for the sound management of chemicals. The achievement of that goal faces a number of obstacles, including: the lack of financial resources to implement obligations under chemicals multilateral environment agreements and SAICM and to meet national objectives; the lack of technical and analytical capacities for development, implementation and enforcement of chemicals management programmes; the lack of integrated national legal and institutional frameworks and intersectoral coordination; the lack of information and awareness of the impacts of chemicals on the environment and human health; and the lack of cost-effective safe alternatives.

Moving forward

275. Continued investments in capacity-building, human resources development, transfer of technology, and research and development, including through international cooperation, are necessary for achieving the 2020 goal.

276. Many effective actions have been taken at all levels to address the challenges in sound chemicals management, including the adoption of SAICM; coordination between United Nations bodies and multilateral agreements, in particular increased cooperation and coordination between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, including through the synergies decisions at the Simultaneous Extraordinary Meetings of the Conferences of the Parties, in Bali; strengthening hazard and exposure assessment; enhancing information-sharing through the pollutant release and transfer registers, the globally harmonized system of classification and labelling, prior informed consent and other mechanisms; promoting substitution of harmful chemicals; regulating toxic chemicals and transport of dangerous goods; and establishing strategies in both public and private sectors to address chemical safety.

277. Future actions for sound management of chemicals at the international and regional levels could include: the full implementation of the current multilateral agreements, including SAICM; strengthening financial mechanisms (as endorsed by Nusa Dua Declaration) for the implementation of the chemicals and waste conventions, including examining the range of financing options for multilateral funding for chemicals, such as extending the time horizon of the Quick Start Programme of SAICM; adopting a global system of recognizing and communicating risks and hazards; successfully negotiating the globally legally binding instrument on mercury; strengthening regional and subregional centres under the three conventions and enhancing regional cooperation; preventing illegal transboundary shipments of hazardous chemicals and radioactive wastes; and addressing emerging challenges, including new chemicals under the multilateral environment agreements, e-waste and nanotechnologies.

278. Actions at the national level could be taken to mainstream the sound management of chemicals into national development priorities; strengthen legislation and regulation on risk prevention with a life cycle and holistic approach, including the ratification and implementation of the ILO Convention concerning Occupational Safety and Health and the Working Environment (No. 155) and the ILO Convention concerning Safety in the Use of Chemicals at Work (No. 170); enhance the governance system with the greater involvement of local authorities and intersectoral coordination, including linking the health and environmental sectors to address chemical safety; disseminate information on the chemical content of products and the impact on human health; use economic instruments and implement the polluter-pays principle; establish effective partnerships with the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders; and undertake an equity analysis and use it to create sound policies that benefit the most vulnerable groups.

Waste management

279. Resource recovery and waste hierarchy (3R) approaches are employed by many Governments as overarching principles for waste management policies and legislation. Other important principles emphasized were the polluter-pays principle and extended producer responsibility. A strategic vision that takes into account the full life cycle can be effective in improving the environmental performance of products.

280. Governments attach great importance to sustainable waste management, as evidenced by the large number of national efforts, goals and targets that were reported. There is a high level of participation in international initiatives and ratification of international conventions related to waste. However, developing countries still face significant obstacles and lack of financing for the sound management of waste.

281. The private sector and other stakeholders play an important role in waste collection and recycling. Much waste collection and recycling in developing countries is done by the informal recycling sector, which makes the monitoring of waste volumes and handling methods, and the introduction of cleaner, safer methods difficult. The waste sector is an important creator of jobs, and many efforts have to be made to transform it into a creator of decent livelihoods.

Moving forward

282. It is necessary to promote a stronger emphasis on waste prevention and to foster investments, including through international and regional cooperation in best practices for environmentally sound management of various waste streams in developing countries, building on existing experiences such as with the 3Rs, and to enhance capacities for implementation and enforcement, especially for control of the export and import of wastes.

283. It is important to strengthen financial, human and institutional capacities at the local levels as they have primary responsibility for household waste. This is especially important in view of increased waste volumes and changes in their composition. Given their geographic characteristics, small island developing States face particular challenges in waste management.

284. There is also a need to develop and implement innovative financial instruments, enhance public-private partnerships, and transfer know-how and technology.

285. The most appropriate mix of waste policies, instruments and technologies will depend upon local and national conditions. Economic instruments reported include tax incentives, user charges, producer charges, levies for landfills and levies for plastic bags. Command-and-control measures include packaging laws, producer take-back and recycling requirements. Good waste management measures can also build on local pride, education of the public and the use of local media.

286. Delegates expressed serious concerns about the continued disposal and illegal shipments of hazardous wastes, including electronic waste and radioactive waste, despite international conventions. There is a need for urgent action to control the illegal traffic of hazardous waste, especially from developed to developing countries. Developing countries need assistance with respect to establishing proper inventories of hazardous and radioactive waste, managing such waste and cleaning up sites, including at sea and in the oceans. In that context, the special needs of Africa, small island developing States, the least developed countries and the landlocked developing countries were acknowledged.

287. Developing countries could benefit from support for the implementation of existing international instruments and conventions, especially the Bamako and the Basel Conventions. In that context, a need was expressed to conclude negotiations and ratification of a protocol on liability and compensation for damages under the Basel Convention.

Managing mining for sustainable development

288. Minerals are indispensable for development. Mining can contribute to poverty eradication, driving growth and enhancing living standards. On the other hand, mining has produced many environmental liabilities, social tensions and cultural problems in developing countries. The benefits have yet to be fully realized, in particular in developing countries.

289. More sustainable mining operations require: strong, transparent and ethical governance; adequate laws and regulations; trained government officials who can enforce laws and regulations; transparency of revenue-sharing; and legal systems offering recourse to communities adversely affected by mining activities. Many

developing countries lack institutional and technological capacity, including for environmental regulation.

Moving forward

290. Strong legal and institutional systems for environmental and social protection are needed and enforcement, including through monitoring systems and environmental impact assessments, should be a priority. Strategic assessments covering the whole life cycle of the project (including economic, social, environmental and technological aspects) should be strongly encouraged. There is a need to ensure free informed prior consent and community approval of projects.

291. The restoration of land after mine closure remains a challenge in many countries owing to environmental liabilities and social problems.

292. There is a need to ensure the participation of all stakeholders, including local communities, indigenous peoples and in particular women, throughout the mining cycle, starting with the drafting of mining rules and public consultation before projects begin.

293. There is a need to improve the working and living conditions of miners and their local communities. ILO standards and human rights principles should be implemented. There should be legal and judicial mechanisms to address compensation claims for fatalities, health damages and the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of unsustainable mining practices. It is necessary, while protecting livelihoods, to address the issue of children working in mines.

294. The artisanal and small-scale mining sector needs legal recognition and technical and financial assistance to improve livelihoods while protecting the environment. There is a need for awareness and education programmes and other mechanisms such as: providing incentives for registration; developing markets for artisanal and small-scale mining products; promoting local value addition; and providing scaled-up extension services to artisanal and small-scale mining. Economic diversification to reduce dependence on mining should also be encouraged.

295. Greater commitment is needed from mining industries to adopt cleaner technologies, reduce environmental impacts, and internalize environmental liabilities through the whole mining process. Governments could strengthen the corporate social responsibility requirements and capacities of the mining sector. Companies need to seek out and train the local population for jobs in the industry. National and international mining codes could make such commitments mandatory. Corporate social responsibility needs to be implemented at all stages of mining activities even after mine closure.

296. International support and capacity-building would be needed to help countries devise and implement regulatory frameworks, including sharing of examples of mining laws and codes, including approaches to revenue-sharing.

297. International governance should be strengthened to foster greater transparency. The United Nations could provide guidelines for good governance at all levels in the mining sector. Many delegations stated that a United Nations framework for sustainable mining should be delivered for approval at the nineteenth session of the Commission.

298. The voluntary Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative and certification systems in the mining sector could be strengthened.

299. A stronger monitoring of mining is needed at the global level, through a balanced structure that includes all the parties concerned. There is a need for an independent monitoring body for uranium mining activities. The United Nations could develop a global instrument for the clean-up of closed and abandoned mines and uranium waste.

300. Developed countries should support efforts in developing countries so that mining can generate sustainable development. Partnerships, including public-private partnerships, could be put in place between international entities and interested countries, as well as at the regional level. Technology transfer from developed to developing countries and capacity-building could consider: strengthening the technical capacities of national institutions dealing with mining; reinforcing capacities at the national and local levels for establishing contracts with companies, managing contracts, managing revenues from mining, and organizing participatory processes; supporting countries to undertake geological surveys and gather mining data; investing more in research and scientific capacity and promoting capacity-building in science and technology; upgrading mining education and training, for example, through technical education and training organized jointly by developing countries and developed countries, including sustainable development content; promoting access to information as a basis for decision-making; the exchange of knowledge, practices in scientific research, environmental practices, and post-mining good practices; strengthening capacity to address social and environmental issues in the artisanal and small-scale mining sector; and diversifying local economies to create alternative employment to mining.

Sustainable production and consumption: towards the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns

301. Sustainable development calls for fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume. There is an urgent need to delink economic growth and natural resource use and environmental degradation. Minimizing the environmental impacts from production and consumption patterns is essential. Development must follow a more sustainable path, giving due importance to the value of the Earth's ecosystems and their contribution to human well-being.

302. A 10-year framework of programmes is intended to support national and regional initiatives towards sustainable consumption and production, and should contribute to realizing a common vision of shared prosperity and human development within the carrying capacity of the planet with developed countries taking the lead in accordance with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and Rio Principle 7.

Realizing an inclusive 10-year framework of programmes

303. To effect the needed change, a 10-year framework of programmes should be ambitious and actionable, and should have explicit goals, measures of progress, and mechanisms and means to support implementation.

304. Many delegations emphasized the need to create a 10-year framework of programmes building on recent work on the national, subregional and regional

strategies under the Marrakech Process, which should remain an important forum for dialogue and cooperation.

305. A 10-year framework of programmes should be embedded in the broader United Nations system and rely on sound science and engineering, including the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management.

306. A 10-year framework of programmes must address the gaps and challenges faced by developing countries related to sustainable consumption and production, namely predictable financing for implementing sustainable consumption and production activities, training and capacity-building and transfer of clean technologies. The value of local and traditional knowledge for sustainable consumption and production also needs to be recognized.

307. A 10-year framework of programmes would engage industry in moving towards sustainable production practices and enhancing corporate social responsibility, including through a variety of initiatives such as the Green Industry Initiatives and National Cleaner Production Centres.

308. A 10-year framework of programmes should be in accordance with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, recognizing the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, supporting poverty eradication efforts and contributing to a fair and equitable multilateral trading system.

309. To further develop the 10-year framework of programmes between now and the nineteenth session of the Commission, many delegations suggested holding an intersessional meeting in advance of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting to allow more discussion of the framework. Delegations suggested formation of an open-ended ad hoc working group on the 10-year framework of programmes under the aegis of the United Nations.

310. Developing a global framework is best done by working hand in hand with civil society. All major groups must contribute to help to delink economic growth from natural resource use and environmental impacts and achieve sustainable consumption and production.

311. The 10-year framework of programmes will need an effective implementation structure.

Possible elements of a 10-year framework of programmes

312. Some delegations noted that a 10-year framework of programmes would need to provide a user-friendly platform for sharing knowledge and experience on sustainable consumption and production practices at all levels and in all parts of the world, as well as ready access to toolkits for supporting sustainable consumption and production.

313. Governments should take the lead to create an enabling environment for sustainable consumption and production. Policy approaches will differ with national and local circumstances, with a suitable mix of legal and regulatory instruments, resource pricing and economic instruments, and voluntary initiatives. Other key instruments for a shift towards sustainable consumption and production include the use of the life cycle approach, integrated spatial planning and investments in green buildings, transport and technologies and United Nations guidelines on consumer

protection. Scientific research and technological innovation will be crucial to making consumption and production more sustainable.

314. A 10-year framework of programmes should provide incentives and support countries and actors in using a diverse set of tools and approaches that have proven their usefulness in advancing sustainable consumption and production, including: sustainable procurement; cleaner production guidelines and methods; green building codes and standards; sustainable resource use measures; demand-side management for electricity; reduction of fossil fuel subsidies; the promotion of renewable energy through feed-in tariffs; the development of super-efficient consumer products; eco-labelling; codes of conduct for advertising; and awareness-raising campaigns and education for sustainable consumption and lifestyles. It was stressed that educating children is essential to shaping a sustainable future.

315. Priority sectors and areas where tools could be applied include: housing and buildings; transportation; food and agriculture; small-scale enterprises; energy and water efficiency; the information technology sector; waste management; and sustainable tourism, among others.

Way forward

316. The Commission bears an important responsibility as custodian of the international sustainable development agenda. In conducting its work, it does well to focus on reaching decisions that are practical, concrete and action-oriented, preferably with time-bound goals. The Commission needs to be mindful of how its decisions are to be implemented by various stakeholders and, to that end, it could benefit from closer links with other international bodies, forums and processes. Furthermore, there is a need for continuous assessment of performance and progress with implementation. Without monitoring of how its decisions are being implemented, there is little basis for determining the Commission's effectiveness in shaping policy and practical outcomes.

317. With respect to decisions to be taken at the nineteenth session of the Commission, key markers were laid down during the current session which could provide guidance. Among the areas for decision suggested at the eighteenth session are:

(a) Strengthened international efforts and investments to promote and develop public transport as a sustainable mode, including through South-South and triangular cooperation;

(b) Further strengthening of existing mechanisms such as the SAICM process, widely recognized as a vital multi-stakeholder partnership for addressing chemicals management; scaling up financial and technical support to developing countries for implementation of those conventions; and enhancing synergies in implementation of the chemicals and waste conventions;

(c) Devising a cooperative global approach to tackling emerging waste challenges such as e-waste; broader scale-up of an integrated approach to waste management, beginning with minimization at source, including through building upon global initiatives such as 3Rs, particularly to support developing countries;

(d) Defining a global initiative for sustainable mining to increase transparency and accountability; and strengthening support mechanisms for artisanal

and small-scale mining, to enhance legal and social protections, technical capacities, the health and safety of miners and communities, and financial viability as well as to diversify local economies.

318. Finally, there was broad agreement among delegations on the need to establish a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production. Many delegations supported a well-structured, transparent intersessional process to develop a proposal for such a framework as the basis for discussion at the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting. The framework needs to take into account the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

319. It was noted that a number of solutions for sustainable consumption and production have been developed through the Marrakech Process, and these need to be scaled up and replicated, possibly as part of a 10-year framework of programmes. A multi-stakeholder approach in designing and driving sustainable consumption and production initiatives is paramount, as is the need for more effective and widespread education and awareness-raising to change values, attitudes and consumer choices.

320. The major groups engaged actively and constructively in the review of good practices and agenda setting during the current session of the Commission and that constructive engagement should be carried forward to the nineteenth session of the Commission.

II. Partnerships fair, learning centre and side events

A. Partnerships fair

321. The partnerships fair, an official part of the annual sessions of the Commission, was held from 3 to 7 May. Registered partnerships for sustainable development were provided an opportunity to highlight progress achieved, share and learn from each other's experiences, network with existing and potential partners and create synergies among partnerships. In anticipation of a comprehensive review of the partnerships programme, the fair was launched with an open forum on the evolving role of partnerships as an instrument for development, the increasingly important role of non-State actors, in particular business and civil society, and consideration of ways in which multi-stakeholder partnerships could be made more effective. The forum also took a closer look at how the partnership mechanism could be used more strategically and systematically to advance programme delivery for sustainable development. The major groups participated actively in the forum.

322. New and existing partnerships presented their programmes and activities, based on the current year's thematic cluster. Attention was given to identifying innovative solutions, strategies proven effective and opportunities for collaboration. Consideration was also given to the need for more systematic monitoring and evaluation of multi-stakeholder partnerships. In addition to the open forum, the fair featured nine interactive discussion sessions on partnerships in practice, including presentations on three new partnerships and one training session. The sessions were well attended, generating a high level of interest, particularly on proposals addressing the strengthening and enhancement of the programme in support of the development of partnerships as tools for advocacy and outreach; for capacity-

building and service delivery; and for resource mobilization and institutional development.

323. Further details of the 2010 partnerships fair programme of activities, including copies of presentations made, are available on the website of the Commission on Sustainable Development at http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_par/par_index.shtml.

B. Learning Centre

324. During the session, the Learning Centre offered 18 courses, held in parallel to the plenary meetings of the Commission. All five themes of the cycle and a range of socio-economic cross-cutting issues were covered. Sponsoring organizations and their lecturers were encouraged by the Secretariat to provide interactive, multimedia courses on skills-building.

325. The participants had the opportunity to gain knowledge and know-how through group instruction, PowerPoint and keynote presentations, video screenings and interactive group discussions and role playing. The lecturers provided specific knowledge and tools, illustrated trends and analyses, highlighted case studies and related lessons learned, challenges and prospects for the future in relation to the five thematic areas.

326. In all, around 430 participants from Government delegations, major groups and international institutions attended the Learning Centre. Further information on the Learning Centre is available on the website of the eighteenth session of the Commission: http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_csd18_learcent.shtml.

C. Side events

327. There were 63 side events as well as information display desks and other related activities organized by Governments, United Nations system agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as major groups in the margins of the official meetings of the Commission. The side events and related activities provided an opportunity for broader exchange of information, experience and diverse views on the current five thematic areas, as well as on cross-sectoral issues and small island developing States.

328. Further details on side events can be found on the website of the eighteenth session of the Commission at http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_csd18_sideeven.shtml.

Chapter III
Other matters

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013: subprogramme 4 (Sustainable development)

1. At the 21st meeting, on 14 May, the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, introduced the note by the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013: subprogramme 4, Sustainable development of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, as contained in document E/CN.17/2010/12.

Action taken by the Commission

2. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to take note of the document (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 18/2).

Chapter IV
Provisional agenda for the nineteenth session of the Commission

1. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 21st meeting, on 14 May. It had before it the provisional agenda for its nineteenth session, as contained in an informal paper in English only.

2. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the provisional agenda and recommended it for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. A).

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Chapter V

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its eighteenth session

1. At its 21st meeting, on 14 May, the Commission had before it the draft report on its eighteenth session (E/CN.17/2010/L.3).

2. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report and entrusted the Rapporteur with its completion, with a view to its submission to the Economic and Social Council.

Chapter VI
Organizational and other matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission on Sustainable Development held its eighteenth session on 15 May 2009 and from 3 to 14 May 2010. The Commission held 21 meetings, as well as a number of parallel sessions and associated activities.

2. At the 2nd meeting, on 3 May 2010, the Chair, Luis Alberto Ferraté Felice (Guatemala), opened the session and made a statement.

3. At the same meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development addressed the Commission.

B. Election of officers

4. At its 1st meeting, on 15 May 2009, the Commission elected the following members of the Bureau by acclamation:

Chair:

Luis Alberto **Ferraté Felice** (Guatemala)

Vice-Chairs:

Hilario G. **Davide**, Jr. (Philippines)
Mohamed A. **Alahraf** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

5. At its 2nd meeting, on 3 May 2010, the Commission elected the following members of the Bureau by acclamation:

Vice-Chairs:

Tania Valerie **Raguž** (Croatia)
Ulf **Jaeckel** (Germany)

6. At the same meeting, the Commission elected by acclamation Eduardo Martin **Meñez** (Philippines) to continue with the unexpired term of Hilario G. **Davide**, Jr. (Philippines), who was no longer in a position to serve as a member of the Bureau.

7. Also at the same meeting, the Commission was informed that Eduardo Martin **Meñez** (Philippines) would also assume the responsibilities of Rapporteur.

C. Agenda and organization of work

8. At its 2nd meeting, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda for its eighteenth session, as contained in document E/CN.17/2010/1, and approved its organization of work, as outlined in an informal paper, circulated in English only. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2010-2011 — review session:

(a) Transport;

(b) Chemicals;

(c) Waste management;

(d) Mining;

(e) A 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns.

4. Other matters.

5. Provisional agenda for the nineteenth session of the Commission.

6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its eighteenth session.

Participation of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the eighteenth session of the Commission

9. At its 2nd meeting, the Commission had before it a note by the Secretariat (E/CN.17/2010/L.1) containing requests from the following intergovernmental organizations to participate as observers in the work of the Commission at its eighteenth session: International Lead and Zinc Study Group; International Copper Study Group; and International Nickel Study Group.

Action taken by the Commission

10. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to approve the requests of the three organizations (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 18/1).

D. Attendance

11. The session was attended by representatives of the 53 States members of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for the European Union, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended. A list of participants will be issued in document E/CN.17/2010/INF/1.

E. Documentation

12. The documents before the Commission at its eighteenth session are posted on the website of the Division for Sustainable Development at www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res_docucsd_18.shtml.

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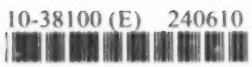

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